

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Soviet Union

Vol III No 054

18 March 1983

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PRAVDA ACCUSES U.S. OF BLOCKING ARMS TALKS

LD171617 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- In its issue of March 18 the newspaper PRAVDA carries an editorial article headlined "Washington Blocking Talks". It says:

"The Soviet-American talks in Geneva on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe have been continuing for sixteen months now. It would be natural, even with due account for the complexity of the questions under discussion, to expect that some progress would manifest itself at the talks over that time. But this is, however, not the case. This situation cannot but be a source of much concern for all people who are truly worried about the future, about how the situation on the European Continent would further shape.

But what is the cause of the continuing stalemate at Geneva? There is only one answer to that question -- Washington does not wish to search for a mutually acceptable decision, a decision that would be fair and just and be based on the principle of equality and equal security.

No verbal subterfuges by representatives of the U.S. Administration, none of their statements about the allegedly "high standards of morality", on which the U.S. stand is based, can conceal that fact.

On the contrary, all of these hackneyed propaganda cliches, which are repeated from day to day, increasingly reveal what Washington would like to conceal: That the efforts of the United States are directed not at reducing nuclear arsenals in the zone of Europe, not at strengthening peace, but at stalling the talks and starting the deployment there of new American nuclear missile weapons.

After the American side put forward its deliberately unacceptable position in the summer of 1981, it has not introduced anything new to it. While claiming that the USA shows a serious attitude to the conduct of the talks, Washington is consciously resorting to deception. As the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES recently admitted, President Reagan agreed to talks to buy time for the deployment of new American ground-based missiles in the European Continent.

What sort of a serious attitude to the talks on the part of the USA is it, if it stubbornly refuses to consider the realities, which have existed and continue existing, as far as the European medium-range nuclear weapons are concerned.

Thus, in particular, the USA does not wish its forward-based nuclear means to be touched upon at the talks altogether. But the point at issue are hundreds of aircraft based in Europe and aircraft carriers off the European shores. These aircraft carry nuclear munitions designed for striking against the territory of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries. And now they in Washington, and correspondingly the U.S. delegation at Geneva, are pressing ahead under all kinds of far-fetched pretexts, for placing American aircraft capable of carrying medium range nuclear weapons outside any restrictions, the more so reductions.

It is quite clear why that is done. As otherwise they will have to recognize the fairness of the Soviet Union's stand that there is a rough parity as regards medium-range means, and then there will remain no pretext, by which they are trying to justify the plans for the deployment of new American missiles. One cannot help asking, however, why the Soviet Union should agree with that false concept, why should it pretend that there are no numerous American military bases on the territory of the European NATO countries, no American aircraft based on aircraft carriers? Clearly, such an approach of the USA is not designed for an agreement.

The basis for an agreement lies in taking full account of all the medium-range weapons really existing in Europe. Proceeding from that, the Soviet Union proposes to establish parity not only as regards missiles, but also as regards aircraft carrying nuclear weapons of this type, at a considerably lower level than now. Would that strengthen European security? It certainly would.

Neither does Washington wish to take into account the nuclear missile means of its allies in NATO's nuclear potential. It is leaning over backwards to prove what cannot be proved. Things come to an absurd [as received] [Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 18 March carries this editorial article on page 4 and here reads: "Things are being taken to absurd lengths:"]: When it needs it, the U.S. Administration stresses in every possible way the "Atlantic" solidarity of the allies, but when it comes to the nuclear weapons of these allies, the same administration dissociates from them, pretending that it does not know in what direction the British and French missiles and bombers are targetted, and calls on everybody to pretend that these weapons do not exist.

Meanwhile, the official papers of the British Government say that Britain's nuclear forces make an inseparable part of the NATO's nuclear means. These documents also say that the British nuclear forces are targetted by the NATO selection of target centre in the city of Omaha in Nebraska, USA. Thus there is a clear discrepancy between claims and facts.

It is an open secret, for example, that the areas of patrolling by French missile-carrying submarines are coordinated with the U.S. command. French leading figures more than once declared that their sea-based nuclear weapons are a powerful force, which contributes to the resolution of the common tasks of the allies, "within the framework of the alliance."

What we are speaking about is a very weighty part of nuclear weapons in Europe belonging to the American allies. And these weapons cannot, certainly, but be taken into account in resolving the problem of the limitation of nuclear weapons in the European area. The Soviet side, as it has explicitly declared, would be ready not to have in the zone of Europe a single missile, a single aircraft more than the NATO countries have of them. Any reasonable person can clearly understand the sensibility and fairness of this stand. But Washington rejects it because parity does not suit it.

Can one, after that, speak of any seriousness of the present American approach to drafting an agreement at the talks with the USSR? Of course not.

Those who are engaged in a sordid game around the Geneva talks, apparently, do not think of the consequences it may have to European and international peace. Moralistic lectures of the type the U.S. President has recently made to the National Evangelical Association cannot substitute for a sincere striving for agreement. From the viewpoint of any moral standards, the open propaganda by the U.S. President of the cult of force, the man-hating calls for intensifying preparations for a nuclear war, which would inevitably turn into the greatest tragedy for all people, are all unacceptable.

Those who are prepared with such ease to allow American missiles into their home, thus placing themselves in a position of Washington's nuclear hostages, would also be well advised to think of where the line of the U.S. Administration may lead them to in the final analysis.

If somebody hopes that nothing will change after the start of deployment of American nuclear missiles in Europe, that everything will proceed in its normal course and that it is possible to force the Soviet Union by the threat of such deployment to agree to unilateral concessions at Geneva, this is a risky misconception. A timely and effective answer will be given to the growth of the threat to the security of the USSR and its allies, which the new American missiles in Western Europe would constitute.

There is yet time for finding a solution. What is missing, however, is readiness to find that solution on the part of those who make decisions in Washington.

USSR, U.S. HOLD PLENARY START SESSION

LD171228 Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva March 17 TASS -- The delegations of the USSR and the United States to the negotiations on the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments held their plenary meeting here today.

USSR, U.S. HOLD PLENARY MEETING AT INF TALKS

LD171337 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva March 17 TASS -- A plenary meeting of the delegations of the USSR and the USA at the talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe has been held here today.

'OBVIOUS UNACCEPTABILITY' OF U.S. PROPOSALS NOTED

LD180929 Moscow TASS in English 0837 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- "The main criterion, on which the U.S. leaders base their stand, is the obvious unacceptability to the USSR of the proposals put forward by the U.S. leaders," the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA points out. That is why the highest of their praise goes to those who help to whip up rather than impede the arms race. As Walter Rostow, a veteran American diplomat, blurts out in his recently published book, when the Soviet side was proposed a "clear skies" plan in 1955, they in Washington were sure that it would be rejected as an obvious attempt at dragging through espionage under cover of building confidence, and that such a situation could be used to try to convince the American public of "belligerence of the Russians."

"The proposal of Walter Rostow and company, as is known has ingloriously sunk into oblivion," the newspaper notes. But a fresh round of the arms race, which was started under its cover, complicated the situation in the world for many years to come, a quest of ways for lowering the level of military confrontation for many years to come."

"It is possible that the authors of the notorious zero will some day let it out how that false pretext was invented and what hopes were pinned on it in order to be able to deploy new nuclear missile weapons of the USA.

How would the West European political figures, who now "by force of their official duties" have to play into the hand of the dangerous designs of the White House aimed at ensuring the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Europe, feel after such a fresh confession of some of the "formers?" It must be thought that they would feel quite embarrassed.

The accomplices of the overseas "pretenders" would be well advised to think of the possible grave consequences, including for their own countries, of the "nuclear poker" started in Washington. The voice of international public demanding that the USA and its NATO allies should give an answer in essence to the Soviet Union's constructive proposals is ringing out ever more loudly. As far as the "zero" is concerned it belongs to the dustheap of history, side by side with the "open skies" and other propaganda plays of the cold war times.

U.S. NUCLEAR FREEZE DELIBERATIONS CONTINUE

LD180430 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2001 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Washington, 17 Mar (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyutvy reports:

The debates on the draft resolution calling for a freeze on the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons of the United States and the USSR continued until late in the night in the U.S. House of Representatives. The administration, seeking to kill this important document by any, even unworthy, means, succeeded by the efforts of its henchmen in the House in drawing out the debates and postponing the vote until the beginning of next week.

According to the newspaper USA TODAY, the document, which was submitted by C. Zablocki, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee (Democrat from Wisconsin), "reflects the opposition of an ever increasing number of Americans to the growth of the arms arsenals." According to the latest public opinion polls, 76 percent of the U.S. population supports the demand for a mutual and verifiable freeze on the nuclear arsenals of the United States and the USSR.

Reflecting the hopes of the overwhelming majority of Americans, this document fully meets the genuine national interests of the country, stated C. Zablocki in the House of Representatives. Approximate balance -- which is essential for a freeze at the present level and then for advancing further towards complete disarmament -- has been achieved in the correlation of the forces of the USSR and the United States.

But the Reagan administration would like to support its unconstructive position at the talks, he said.

As Congressman E. Markey (Democrat, Mass) noted in his speech, representatives of all sections of American society are advocating a freeze on nuclear arsenals. It is a reasonable demand. Yet the White House continues to assert that this massive antinuclear movement is "naive and misinformed." If we are to speak of disinformation, he said, then its pattern is set by the claims made by representatives of the administration that the movement for a freeze is being manipulated from outside and that the United States is appreciably lagging behind the USSR militarily.

The White House is stubbornly imposing on us the conception that we are lagging behind the USSR in the military sphere, Congressman G. Leach (Republican, Iowa) pointed out. It is simply stupid to talk of such things when both sides have accumulated potentials capable of destroying all living things on earth several times over. It must be our supreme moral and political duty to stop the arms race on earth and ensure peace.

Member of the House of Representatives, M. Oakar (Ohio) criticized the irresponsible statements of the Reagan administration about the possibility and permissibility of "limited" nuclear war. Americans to ally reject such a position, she said.

U.S. PRESSURES NETHERLANDS ON MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

PM181141 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Twisting Partners' Arms"]

[Text] Washington, 16 Mar -- Talks have been held in the White House between U.S. President R. Reagan and Netherlands Prime Minister R. Lubbers, who is here on an official visit. Taking part in them were U.S. Vice President G. Bush, Secretary of State G. Shultz, Secretary of Defense C. Weinberger and other U.S. Government officials. A wide range of problems was discussed, with attention focusing chiefly on East-West relations, the situation within NATO and the bloc's plans to deploy new U.S. nuclear missile weapons on European territory. The Netherlands is one of the five countries in the North Atlantic bloc in which Washington plans to deploy 572 cruise missiles and Pershing II's despite strong protests from the Netherlands public and the West European public as a whole.

The press conference given after the meeting by R. Reagan and R. Lubbers showed that, as in other talks with U.S. West European partners, the White House incumbent has once again resorted to the tactic of arm-twisting in a bid to secure official Netherlands consent to the deployment of the U.S. missiles. In response to the pressure of public opinion considerable opposition to Washington's plans is known to still exist in political circles in the country, the ruling party included.

For this reason R. Reagan informed correspondents of the need for "a united West" on the issue of "modernizing" the North Atlantic bloc's armed forces and on how to approach the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva. As is well known, by advancing its so-called "zero option" demanding the USSR's unilateral disarmament, Washington is blocking progress at the talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe.

While pointing out the Netherlands' "important contribution" to the NATO military system and expressing support for the U.S. "zero option," in his statement R. Lubbers once again passed over in silence the question of when his government will give its answer on whether or not to allow the missiles to be deployed.

The talks also showed that among West European leaders, who are forced to take account of the mood of broad sections of the public in their countries, there is growing concern over the deadlock in the talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe. The reason for this is the stance adopted by the United States, which is trying to wreck the current approximate balance of forces in the world and in Europe and to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union.

R. Lubbers said at the press conference that there is an increasing awareness in Europe that in order to make progress at the talks the United States must show greater flexibility, possibly by making some "interim proposals" more acceptable to the USSR. He called on the United States to take some "gradual steps" to help the talks to progress. Similar appeals have already been made to Washington by the leaders of the FRG, Italy and Britain.

NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE COULD INCLUDE USSR TERRITORY

PM172321 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 16 Mar 83 p 8

[Lars Christiansson report: "Soviet Union Prepared To Be Included in Zone"]

[Text] "The Soviet Union is prepared to allow a Nordic nuclear-free zone to also include Soviet territory.

The Soviet Union is ready to negotiate with the Nordic countries about the possibility of realizing the Nordic zone," Soviet Foreign Ministry International Organizations Department Chief Dr Vladimir Petrovskiy said on Tuesday [15 March]. The statement came in an address he was making at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

"A nuclear-free zone in the Nordic area could be a pioneering model that could mean that other areas could become nuclear-free. We are in favor of this," Dr Petrovskiy said.

Petrovskiy said that the Soviet Union is ready to enter into negotiations about the Nordic zone. But in response to a direct question from SVENSKA DAGBLADET he was unwilling to be specific about the Soviet position either on monitoring arrangements or on exactly what "territory" means in this context. However, he said that negotiations on a Nordic zone must be held first and foremost with the Nordic countries.

"We cannot say more. That would be revealing our negotiating position," Petrovskiy replied.

In general terms Petrovskiy said that questions like the monitoring of agreements and on-site inspections, which are the stumbling blocks in all disarmament forums, must be solved step by step. Petrovskiy touched on this when he raised the negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union on medium-range nuclear arms.

"As soon as an agreement on a reduction is reached it can be followed by an agreement on how the agreement can be monitored."

WARNKE SAYS U.S. SALT STAND 'NONCONSTRUCTIVE'

LD172343 Moscow TASS in English 2306 GMT 17 Mar 83

[text] Washington March 18 TASS -- The Reagan administration holds a nonconstructive stand at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva. It is only Washington's honest efforts with the aim of reaching a compromise in this sphere that can lead to an agreement. This was said at the National Press Club on Thursday by the former director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, former head of the United States delegation at the SALT-2 talks Paul Warnke.

An extremely unsatisfactory situation has formed at the Geneva talks on strategic arms limitation and reduction, Paul Warnke said. Within nine months, the talks have made no progress at all. Instead of putting things in order in this matter, "memoranda" are being issued in Washington with the aim of a radical "purge" in the United States delegation at the talks and in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Paul Warnke pointed out that the proposal of the U.S. side at the Geneva talks on strategic arms limitation and reduction is unjust since the USSR would have to reduce land-based strategic missiles on a far greater scale than the United States.

CORRECTION TO ITEM ON ABM DEPLOYMENT IN FRG

The following correction pertains to the item entitled "ABM Deployment in FRG 'Breach' of U.S.-USSR Treaty," published in the 16 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page AA 4:

Paragraph four, line one should read...Renunciation of the treaty... (changing word "reunification" to "renunciation")

OPEC DECISION DOES NOT RULE OUT 'PRICE WAR'

PM172227 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by correspondent A. Maslennikov: "OPEC Decision"]

[Excerpts] London, 18 Mar -- As a result of difficult 12-day talks which have ended here, the ministers of the 13 OPEC countries have decided to lower the base price for oil from \$34 to \$29 a barrel. At the same time the ministers agreed to fix an overall upper limit for oil extraction at 17.5 million barrels a day, assigning each member of the cartel a strict quota within the overall limit. In contrast to the other OPEC members, Saudi Arabia has assumed no individual quota for oil extraction, stating it will alter it depending on demand.

Commentators here note that the decisions taken in London do not mean that the threat of a "price war" on the world oil market has been totally eliminated. Some British newspapers report that in the capitals of capitalist states on both sides of the Atlantic new steps are being elaborated aimed at twisting the OPEC countries' arms and forcing them to embark on further concessions.

COMMENTARY ON RESULTS OF OPEC MEETING

LD172327 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 17 Mar 83

["OPEC Decides"; commentary by economic scientist (Andrey Misterenko)]

[Text] The London meeting of OPEC oil ministers ended on 14 March. You know, gentlemen, that they decided to reduce the basic price of oil from \$34 to \$29 a barrel after difficult talks lasting 10 days. They also agreed on production quotas for the majority of member countries. The decision to reduce the basic price of oil was the first in 22 years of OPEC history. Exporters were forced to take this step under the pressure of exceptional conditions such as the strong economic decline in the West, the freezing of OPEC oil purchases by the monopolies, and finally reduction of the price of North Sea oil by Britain -- intentionally and for provocative purposes. All this threatened the emergence of strong competition among OPEC members. It has long been the dream of neocolonialists to split this organization. The Arab and other oil exporting countries prevented the monopolies from supervising their resources, thus committing a double crime in the eyes of the imperialists. The exploiters were expelled by the oil exporting countries and oil was placed at the service of national interests. They also gave a shining example to other developing countries which did not want the imperialists to rob their resources. Imperialism is now trying to recover its control of developing countries and therefore it directs its main blow to the Arab countries. The interests of the oil kings in the West play a major role in this.

Israeli aggression against Lebanon, the provocation against Libya and the stirring up of fighting among the brothers, in other words the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, and the attempts to undermine Arab unity and the unity of OPEC -- all these are links in one chain. In short, the aggression against the Arab world is linked with the economic onslaught of imperialism. The masters of the monopolies have been confident recently that their desire to crush OPEC was about to materialize. The conflicts which they stirred up inside OPEC deprived its members of the possibility of acting as a united and harmonious force.

A year after the Vienna OPEC conference was unable to coordinate an acceptable attitude to the price of oil and fix production quotas for member countries, some exporters began to increase their sales at the expense of their partners. Yet despite these difficult circumstances, OPEC members were able to confront the intrigues of monopolies and take a joint decision. Of course, the reduction in the price of OPEC oil influences the incomes of OPEC member countries, which have gone down substantially in recent years. But OPEC maintained its unity. The 13 developing countries, linked by a joint political and economic program, stand as in the past in confrontation with the monopolies -- and this is a major task.

The West pretends to be satisfied and discusses with pleasure the results of the OPEC meeting in London. In fact, the hopes of the masters of the oil monopolies were dashed because they hoped agreement would not be reached. It is worth mentioning that the failure of the imperialist intrigue against OPEC will encourage the monopolies to begin a new wide campaign to undermine the unity of OPEC. And there are signs of this campaign: Before the end of the London meeting on 8 March, David [name indistinct], official of the University of California, recommended in THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR that the United States should assist the trend toward an oil price cut. British petroleum was more diplomatic when one of its officials recently announced that the price of North Sea oil should be cheaper than Nigerian oil but not more expensive than it is now. This means that the monopolies, by means of "the flooding of goods," will also undermine the future price of OPEC oil. A commentary by the Libyan news agency on 8 March said OPEC should respond with a coordinated stand to the policy of threats exercised by the United States and its agents. This is the call of the day and the long-term strategy of OPEC. And an important step was taken in London along the road to the recovery of OPEC countries. The issue facing OPEC members now is to implement the resolutions of the organization.

MOSCOW PRESS CONFERENCE MARKS EARTH STUDY JUBILEE

PM171013 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "The Earth: Our Common Home"]

[Text] The study of global natural processes cannot develop successfully without international cooperation. A press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists held in the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center was devoted to the centennial of such cooperation in studying the earth. This date is being marked on the basis of a UNESCO decision.

The major projects which have been carried out by scientists from various countries over 100 years were spoken of by Academician A.L. Yanshin, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The aims of this research, he stressed, are consonant with such concepts as "earth -- the common home of all the peoples," "the planet's energy resources," "the prohibition of nuclear explosions in all the environments" and "man and the environment."

The development of international cooperation in the study of the planet today and Soviet scientists' efforts in the struggle against the threat of nuclear catastrophe were the subject of speeches by V.V. Belousov, chairman of the Soviet Geophysical Committee and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Academician L.M. Brekhovskikh, V.A. Yarmolyuk, USSR deputy minister of geology; and others.

CRITICISM OF U.S. AT NONALIGNED SUMMIT ASSESSED

LD180004 Moscow in French to Africa 1700 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] The U.S. State Department has published a statement in connection with the declaration adopted by the Delhi Nonaligned Summit. Washington is angered above all by criticism leveled at the United States contained in the political chapter of the declaration, and by the absence of similar criticism against the Soviet Union. Here is what Yevgeniy Stepanov writes about this:

Indeed, the Delhi summit document reflects the anti-American and antiimperialist tendencies felt by the overwhelming majority of the delegates. This is explained by Washington's chauvinistic policy toward the developing countries, including those of Africa. The United States is the main ally and protector of the South African regime -- a source of tension in southern Africa -- as stressed by representatives of the African countries. Washington openly torpedoes implementation of the UN program of independence for Namibia. Washington's continued military penetration in Africa also shows the U.S. intention to shamelessly interfere in the affairs of independent African states.

Literally on the eve of the Delhi conference, the deputy assistant secretary of defense had talks in Zaire on the expansion of the U.S. military presence in that country. Another Washington envoy, retired Lt Gen Walters, an ambassador for special missions, went to Sudan, Somalia and Kenya and discussed problems regarding the development and modernization of U.S. military bases in those countries. African countries bordering the Indian Ocean are deeply concerned about the U.S. military schemes in this region, and by the establishment of the largest navy and air base on Diego Garcia Island. U.S. special services were involved in the abortive coup in the Seychelles, in the subversive and antigovernment actions in Mozambique and Zambia, and in the worsening of tension in Ghana.

It is in this openly anti-African policy of Washington that the causes of criticism against the United States can be found, although the State Department is tempted to put the blame for this on certain radical elements acting within the Nonaligned Movement on Moscow's orders.

As for the Soviet Union, it has always carried out a policy aimed at developing friendship and cooperation with the nonaligned countries, supporting their struggle against racism and colonialism, and favoring a lessening of world tension and establishing economic relations based on equal rights.

U.S. OPPOSITION TO REAGAN ADMINISTRATION VIEWED

PM141127 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

["International commentary" by Doctor of Historic Sciences Andrey Kokoshin: "Washington's 'Smokescreen'"]

[Text] Some very worrying notes were sounded in the administration's economic program expounded by the U.S. President 2 years ago. "We are up against the worst economic chaos since the great depression," R. Reagan noted at the time. "We are threatened by an economic disaster of huge proportions." The President turned out a prophet. In his recent economic message to the U.S. Congress he admitted: "We have now reached a critical stage in the American economy." By assessing the situation in this dramatic way Reagan in trying to prepare American working people for new "essential sacrifices."

But how much sacrifice is possible? I heard this question on more than one occasion during my recent U.S. tour from the lips of the most varied people: a streetcar driver in San Francisco and a university professor in New York, a construction worker in Seattle and the political observer of a big Washington newspaper. You can say without exaggeration that the country today is like a huge, worried beehive. The combination of the growing unpopularity of the White House's economic policy and its adventurist foreign policy course makes the present position of the administration at the beginning of its 3d year in office even more shaky than imagined by American specialists 2 years ago. You can see dissatisfaction with Washington's domestic and foreign policy course everywhere in America and at different points on the social ladder.

The upsurge of mass opposition movements, multifaceted in their composition and specific slogans but working in unison together, started back in the fall 1981. They became a force catalyzing to a considerable degree internal strife within the ruling class itself. Even certain influential groupings of the ruling elite, playing on mass sentiment, began to orient themselves toward opposition to the Reagan administration's foreign and military policy.

Under the influence of this, the situation in Congress now began to change to the administration's disadvantage. The coalition of legislators which had supported all Reagan's budget proposals, composed virtually entirely of Republicans and conservative Democrats from the South but including a number of centrists Democrats, collapsed. A significant group of moderate and liberal Republican congressmen became active in the House of Representatives.

As for Reagan's military programs, which had previously passed through Congress like a knife through butter, from the second half of 1981 they began to encounter increasingly active opposition from the legislators.

The growing opposition to the Reagan course was demonstrated by the results of the November 1982 elections, in which the Republicans lost 28 seats in the House of Representatives.

The new Congress soon "showed its teeth" to the administration in debating a whole range of proposals regarding budget appropriations. In particular, a powerful blow was struck against the Reagan administration's military-political plans by the voting in the House of Representatives on appropriations for the new MX ICBM's, designed as a "first strike" weapon.

At the time of my U.S. tour the President delivered his State of the Union message to Congress and the administration submitted its budget proposals for fiscal 1984. Every day the press and television reported growing opposition being encountered among the legislators to the administration's budget policy, including the appropriations being requested for military needs.

During that time I witnessed the fierce criticism begin leveled at Reagan's economic policy. Not only has it not resulted in the promised upswing, but it has whipped up the level of unemployment to 10 percent and created a huge budget deficit which, in the estimation of the congressional budget office, could soon reach the level of \$140-160 billion.

U.S. business circles are seriously concerned over the problem of the "reindustrialization of America," whose positions in the economic, scientific and technical spheres are becoming increasingly vulnerable compared with the two other main "centers of strength" in the capitalist world -- West Europe and Japan.

Certain interlocutors voiced the opinion that the administration, by increasing the military budget, is producing the biggest redistribution of federal funds in all U.S. history in favor of the corporations in the South and on the U.S. west coast which primarily back the Californian Reagan.

It is noticeable that critics of the Reagan administration's foreign and military policy are growing increasingly active within the frame work of the U.S. ruling elite. They believe that the administration could take the country to the brink of thermo-nuclear catastrophe through its adventurism and frontal anti-Sovietism.

There is no doubt that Reagan's critics are significantly influenced by the firm and principled stand of the Soviet Union, which, on the one hand, convincingly demonstrates the unreality of achieving U.S. military superiority and, on the other, puts forward businesslike and far-reaching initiatives for normalizing the international situation and limiting and ending the arms race.

Reports have been appearing in the American press recently that certain members of the administration threat seriously the possibility of appropriate Soviet-American accords in the military-political sphere. At the same time a number of my own observations clearly indicate that the softening of the tone of the administration's pronouncements and its formal agreement to talks are just a kind of "smokescreen" behind which it intends to continue building up military strength and to pursue uncompromising confrontation with the socialist community.

And, yet, despite its failures, the Reagan administration possesses a certain "safety margin" which is enabling it, for the time being, to keep to its chosen course to a certain extent without displaying an appreciable shift toward the center. Despite the fact that many employers and middle urban strata are dissatisfied with the country's present economic position and are increasingly losing faith in "Reaganomics," at the same time they see no serious alternative to the administration's course when the liberal socioeconomic concepts which dominated the United States in previous decades have been discredited.

The nouveaux riches of "big business" are grateful to Reagan for the fact that his administration frequently and openly emphasizes the value of the ideals of "free enterprise" and individualism.

In various parts of the United States you notice that all detachments of American working people without exception are feeling the growing burden of the administration's economic and social policy in its entirety. On their part opposition is growing apace, and the labor unions are playing an active role in it. However, the widening of the scale of this struggle is being hindered by the conciliatory policy of a number of labor union bosses who, for the sake of preserving employment in the motor vehicle industry, for example, agreed to virtual reduction in the wages of millions of workers without opposition.

The groupings of monopolists who ceded power after the 1980 election are clearly preparing to take revenge. You understand this well on traveling through the states of the northeast. The "eastern establishment" cannot endure the huge redistribution of tax revenue which is taking place through the military budget in favor of Texas, California, the "deep" south and other "cowboy" regions. In preparing for revenge they are gambling chiefly on Democratic Party politicians. At present, however, the impression is gained that this party is considerably inferior to the Republicans in terms of organization. It does not have an obvious leader. Sufficiently clear concepts have not been formed on questions of foreign and military policy or the economic course.

The majority of U.S. political commentators are now unanimous on one thing: Reagan and members of his administration would undoubtedly be subjected to far stronger attacks by their political opponents within the framework of the ruling elite but for the common class interests in strengthening the institution of presidential power, which was weakened by the Watergate scandal and Nixon's resignation and by the ineffectual presidencies of G. Ford and J. Carter. This is why a whole constellation of stories about bribery and close ties between eminent members of the administration and organized crime have not yet been used on a wide scale to inflict telling blows on the President, as is customary in America.

An evaluation of the trends in U.S. political life enables the conclusion to be drawn today that a still greater increase in resistance to the Reagan administration's domestic and foreign policy should be expected in the long term from the broad masses of the working people.

U.S. DOCUMENTS 'REAFFIRM' ARMS RACE ESCALATION

LD181108 Moscow TASS in English 0829 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] New York March 18 TASS -- The Reagan administration is out to continue its policy of escalation of the arms race, confrontation and international brigandage. This is seen from the two highly classified documents which are now at the disposal of the LPI agency -- defence guidance for 1985-1989 and a memorandum of Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger of March 1 this year enclosed with it.

In the course of the five-year period covered by the new defence guidance, the United States intends to spend 1,958.6 billion dollars, that is almost two trillion dollars, on a build-up of its military might. Special emphasis is laid on offensive nuclear potential.

The new document reaffirms the policy of arms race in outer space outlined earlier, sets the task of widening the American role as an international policeman, above all, in the Persian Gulf area and in Latin America. In that connection the defence guidance openly proclaims the possibility of direct U.S. military interference on the side of Washington's allies and "friends".

The defence guidance has been drawn up by the Pentagon, the Joint Chief of Staff Committee and commanders of the U.S. Armed Forces.

PRAVDA OBSERVER ASSAILS U.S. 'DEMOCRACY PROGRAM'

PM111219 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Korionov "Political Observer's Notes": "The Instigators' Torch"]

[Text] Washington's politicians are pulling out all the stops. They are twisting the West Europeans' arms in an attempt to extort their consent to the deployment of the new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles. The Pentagon is expanding the "Rapid Deployment Force." Practical measures are being taken to create a "Central Command" whose noose it is intended to fasten around the throats of 19 countries.

The U.S. State Department, which recently announced a "program of democracy and public diplomacy" has also been busy. The essence of that program, which consists in massive interference in sovereign states' internal affairs, is so obvious that even certain Capitol Hill legislators are embarrassed. The administration is calling on them to be bold. Addressing congressmen, U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz called on them to "bear this torch."

What "torch" this is becomes clear from recent reports in the world press.

The Indian newspaper PATRIOT, for example, reports that it has become known in Delhi that "President Reagan has recommended that the CIA begin special operations particularly "in developing countries." The newspaper explains that "special operations" implies the "physical elimination of important politicians, inciting local armed conflicts and organizing ethnic, religious and racial conflicts, economic sabotage and political coups." It appears from the plan formulated in Washington that, in addition to India, the countries chosen as targets for U.S. interference also include Cuba, Nicaragua, Libya, South Yemen, Ethiopia, Angola, Iran and a number of others.

Even in the U.S. press there have been quite a few reports from which it is clear that a large group of U.S. agencies, committees, centers and other governmental, semigovernmental and private institutions are now involved in the implementation of the above-mentioned "program."

It is primarily the USIA -- the main "psychological warfare" headquarters -- that is generating the greatest activeness. Addressing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently, USIA Director Wick stated that "our enemy is the Soviet Union." Wick demanded that the USIA's appropriations for fiscal 1984 be increased by \$113.8 million, bringing the USIA budget up to \$711.4 million.

Just last December the agency conducted a seminar whose aim, as it appeared from an official document, was "to use the mass media to assist government officials in Latin American countries as well as those countries' armed forces to improve the efficiency of their operations in the ideological struggle." The composition of the seminar participants demonstrated graphically whom Washington cares about. Present were representatives of Chile, Guatemala, Haiti and El Salvador. It is characteristic that this seminar was conducted by (Makkenzi), former official press consultant to the Nicaraguan dictator Somoza. Washington has learned nothing from the downfall of that regime. Now it is using the same methods to try to save the remaining dictatorships.

Other U.S. Centers are being mobilized to resolve this task. In particular, in the United States a certain "Pan-American" businessmen's "commission" is training leaders of the press services of Chile, Guatemala, Haiti and other terror regimes.

Washington has announced the appointment of former Senator Richard Stone as special envoy for "public diplomacy" in Latin America. At present this "envoy" is touring Latin American countries in an attempt, as THE NEW YORK TIMES writes, to arrange a "widespread publicity campaign to change the Salvadoran regime's reputation."

The Washington service's tentacles are also extending with increasing impudence toward Europe. At one time the White House tried to appoint Ernest Lefever, a well-known obscurantist, as assistant secretary of state for human rights. Lefever was assigned to head the so-called center for research in the sphere of ethics and social policy, one of whose functions is to train U.S. agents to demoralize public movements in Europe. As can be seen from WASHINGTON POST reports, that center is now directing its efforts toward undermining the antimissile and antiwar movement in Western Europe. Specifically, the center intends to organize seminars for European churchmen who are "in the forefront of the antinuclear movement." The USIA paid (Lefever \$200,000 for these purposes.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST again, the (Klermont) institute of administration and political philosophy is carrying out a "program for inviting young European conservatives to the United States" for them to absorb "U.S. political and cultural traditions." The kind of "traditions" to be inculcated becomes clear even if only from the fact that the "young European conservatives" are to study the speeches and articles of such bards of U.S. expansionism as Admiral Alfred Mahan, President Theodore Roosevelt, well known for his adherence to the "big stick" policy, and other apostles of U.S. "democracy."

A certain national strategy information center has been allocated over \$50,000 to finance participation by U.S. "social democrats" in socialist international functions. What kind of "social democrats" these are is clear even if only from their list, headed by retired Admiral Zumwalt, a well-known "superhawk...."

The inspirers of this subversive activity do not hide their criminal designs. L. Beilenson, a proponent of total nuclear war who is close to the current White House boss, proclaims that all who are prepared to combat communists should be openly offered money. "I call this 'foreign aid for freedom,'" he stated frankly to journalists: "You call it subversive activity -- it is the same thing."

From the creation of "fifth columns" in other countries to the organization of forcible operations to destabilize governments which do not please U.S. ruling circles -- such is the spectrum of Washington's "crusade" against the forces of freedom and progress.

Congress Debates Propaganda Program

LD172042 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] In the course of the 1984 budget debate, the U.S. Congress is discussing the increase of expenditure on foreign propaganda, including the financing of information agencies in the United States. U.S. Congress approval of propaganda expenses usually take place without any deliberations, says Moscow radio commentator Aleksandr Danilov.

However, in the last few years, the debates on these issues have been transformed into anti-Polish rallies. Each surpassing the other congressmen were rambling on the need to earmark the largest possible sums for the transfer of information. Such was the definition used at that time for Polish patriots [as heard].

Presumably, the U.S. legislators believe that psychological warfare unleashed by the U.S. departments for foreign propaganda against the socialist countries will yield profits and that is why the activities of these departments deserve financial support. However, this year, the debate within the capitol has suddenly assumed a rather unexpected character. The members of the U.S. Senate Foreign Affairs Committee have been most scrupulously examining Charles Wick, director of the U.S. Information Agency. They also have not disguised their dissatisfaction of his evasive answers regarding the so-called program of democracy and public diplomacy.

Mary McGrory who reported the debate in THE WASHINGTON POST, said ironically "I suppose, though it is not very likely, that a person could be found with an adequate command of English to be able to explain the program of democracy." All the same, the language of the first draft of this program, drafted by Charles Wick is a verbal charade.

When he ended his nebulous deliberations, the members of the Senate committee were in a state of similar embarrassment as at the opening of his speech. It is a known fact, continued the Moscow radio commentator, that the language often serves to disguise true intentions. It is not accidental that Charles Wick used a verbal smokescreen. He had for sale goods of an obviously suspect quality.

On the other hand, the explanation of the contents of the program of democracy U.S.-style presents no difficulties in any language. The democracy program U.S.-style constitutes a part of a concrete plan designed to put into effect the slogan launched by Ronald Reagan in the British Parliament when he spoke there last year. At that time, he asked the West to close its ranks in the crusade against the socialist countries. Let us at last stop wavering, urged the U.S. President to his allies, at last. Let us take advantage of all our might to put Marxism-Leninism into the trash can of history.

The program of democracy U.S.-style is [words indistinct] chapter of the secret Document 77 of the National Security Council signed by the President in January. The program is designed to commit the United States to support the largest possible number of organizations and influential leaders in countries independent of the United States. As an instrument for this purpose, ideological propaganda and bribery are to be used. In other words, we have here the use of well-worn, more-or-less-legal methods [word indistinct] by the United States for extending the support to the collaborators of U.S. imperialism. The concrete methods are identical to those tested and tried in Poland in an attempt to form groups whose activities would suit U.S. interests. This means financial support for these groups, from social organizations. Finally, this is a mass psychological attack through the U.S. broadcasting and dissemination propagandistic programs. However, in line with this year's Washington program, not only the socialist countries will presently be subjected to democratization: The program also presents the task of consolidation of antisocialist prejudices and an increase of anticommunist psychosis in the developing countries.

In fact, there is more. The plan interferes in the domestic affairs even of the capitalist countries through support or -- the other way around -- through compromising one part or another, political leaders, social organizations, trade union organizations and the media. The objective is to compel, the allies to commit themselves more actively in Washington's adventurist policy regarding the Soviet Union, Poland and other socialist countries. Therefore, it seems that this part of Reagan's ambitious program has greatly embarrassed the legislators. The deplorable experience of the political campaigns unleashed by the present administration compels the congressmen to be vigilant all the time.

[Words indistinct] Polish and anti-Soviet the White House has committed a fair number of errors. The relations between the United States and Western Europe have never been so tense. Presumably, the congressmen fear that the worldwide propaganda planned by Reagan and his collaborators will simply strengthen anti-American sentiments in other countries. Thus they would like to see the same commodity, worldwide crusade against socialism, in more attractive wrapping. However, this cannot be said aloud. This is the reason for the tricks applied during the present debate within the capital between the legislators and the representatives of the administration.

PENTAGON BOOK 'DISHONEST PROPAGANDA FABRICATION'

LD151905 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Report by A. Druzhinin; from the Vremya newscast]

[Text] In Washington at the moment they are fanning a noisy propaganda campaign to frighten Americans with the so-called Soviet military threat.

"Soviet Military Power" -- pamphlets with this title are now piled up in all Washington state bookshops. It was published by the Pentagon in a 300,000 print run, and for \$6 everyone who wishes to can acquaint himself with this example of propagandist gossip, read the terrifying foreword by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, which does not bother with objective comparisons of the military potential of the Soviet Union and the United States, setting out to assert that the aim of Soviet policy is supposedly the attainment of military supremacy. [Camera shows book's cover and Weinberger's signature on the preface.]

However, the sensations on which its authors were depending have evidently not been caused by this Pentagon publication. Americans well understand that an exactly similar pamphlet was published in September 1981. [Camera shows 1981 edition.] It is in no way different from the present one, except for the color of the cover. Exactly the same publisher, identical title, exactly the same well-known selection of arguments, bearing no resemblance to truth, that Soviet military might allegedly threatens the security of the United States.

However, there is another common feature of these two Pentagon publications: The pamphlet published in 1981 and that which appeared just a few days ago, were both published at precisely a time when the Reagan administration needed to wring from Congress additional means for stepping up the arms race. At the moment, the publication of the Pentagon's miserable booklet is timed especially for the discussion in Congress of the U.S. draft military budget for fiscal 1984. The Washington administration is trying to get a record sum of more than \$238 billion allocated for the needs of the American military. It is pursuing yet another aim -- to convince the public of the United States and West Europe of the need to begin this year the deployment of American Pershing II and cruise missiles on the territory of the European countries that are NATO members.

And to implement these dangerous plans, Washington will publish any dishonest propaganda fabrications.

U.S. TO RESUME TESTS OF B-1 BOMBER

LD172244 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1915 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] A spokesman for the U.S. Air Force has announced that tests of the new B-1 bomber will begin at the end of March at Edwards Air Force base in California. In the tests, one of the four B-1 prototypes built before former President Carter called off the program for development of the bomber in 1977 will be used.

DIRECTIVE 75 'SUBVERSIVE' ANTI-SOVIET PLAN

LD172230 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2015 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] News has filtered through to the U.S. press of the National Security Council secret Directive No 75 signed by President Reagan. THE LOS ANGELES TIMES writes: This directive defines the principles of Washington's present policy toward the USSR, which -- in the words of the paper -- are without precedent since the height of the cold war. President Reagan has instructed the administration to try to influence the internal situation in the Soviet Union through trade and economic pressure as a means of achieving changes in Moscow's foreign policy. At the same time, as is obvious from the article, the task is also set to exhaust the Soviet economy by foisting new rounds of the arms race and applying military blackmail toward the USSR.

In addition to economic and military pressure, the launching of a mighty campaign of anti-Soviet ideological subversive actions, is also imputed, primarily executed by the subversive radio stations controlled by the CIA. In the words of the newspaper, the countries of Latin America, Western Europe and the Soviet Union will be the objects of this U.S. propaganda campaign. It is on the basis of this second main instruction, Directive No 75, that the so-called program of democracy and public diplomacy, announced by Washington last month, was drawn up, writes THE LOS ANGELES TIMES.

As is known, this notorious subversive plan, for which the administration is allocating \$65 million in the next financial year, is aimed at fanning, by all means possible, psychological warfare, primarily against the countries of socialism; crude interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states under the pretext of defending democracy; and extensive propaganda throughout the world of the ideas and values of U.S. imperialism.

It is noteworthy that one of the principal authors of the secret directive was no other than Richard Pipes, ex-colleague at the National Security Council. This odious figure, who has long plowed the furrow of ardent anti-sovietism and anticommunism, has already shown himself to be a dyed-in-the-wool reactionary, hysterically fighting for nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union. It is not fortuitous that THE LOS ANGELES TIMES compares President Reagan's new directive with Washington's arrangements during the very height of the cold war. For the first time since President Truman, the paper acknowledges, interference in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union is being proclaimed as the aim of U.S. policy.

Directive No 75 is arousing anxiety in Western Europe. London's THE GUARDIAN recalls that last year, the West European countries had an extremely negative attitude to Washington's attempts to block their trade with the USSR. President Reagan is now extremely close to repeating the strategic mistake, signifying the opening of a second front against its partners, THE GUARDIAN stresses.

'Economic, Military Blackmail'

LD172127 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1940 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] The Reagan administration has drawn up aggressive plans for mass political, economic and ideological pressure against the Soviet Union in an attempt to undermine the socioeconomic system and international position of the Soviet state. These are the aims set out in National Security Council secret Directive No 75 signed by President Reagan, information about which has filtered through to the U.S. press.

This directive, THE LOS ANGELES TIMES writes, defines the basis of Washington's current policy toward the USSR. This basis, the newspaper writes, is without precedent since the height of the cold war. President Reagan has instructed his administration to try to influence the internal situation in the Soviet Union, using trade and economic pressure as a means of bringing about changes in Moscow's foreign policy. At the same time, as is clear from the newspaper article, the aim is also set of exhausting the Soviet economy by imposing new rounds of the arms race and using military blackmail against the USSR. This therefore implies a new round in official Washington's frontal psychological warfare against the USSR and the whole socialist community.

As for the provocative calls in the new directive for economic and military blackmail to be used against the USSR, then, as the leaders of the Soviet state have said on many occasions, the program of a further build-up in arms will not force the Soviet Union to make unilateral concessions. The USSR will be compelled to respond to the United States challenge by developing its own corresponding weapons systems.

'Economic War'

LD172137 Moscow TASS in English 2055 GMT 17 Mar 83

["U.S. Imperial Diktat" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- News Analyst Ivan Ablamov writes:

According to THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, the White House has issued the "secret Directive 75" signed by President Reagan and aiming at broader economic and trade sanctions against the Soviet Union and at the West's "economic war" on the USSR. In the past Washington's arrogant attempts to give orders to its allies in that sphere came to nothing. However, the Reagan administration, which has evidently failed to learn a thing from that, is trying in its traditional imperial style to instruct other countries how and with whom they should develop trade and economic relations, trying to make them dependent on its predilections and ideosyncrasies.

And that is so, since the new order of the White House is directed in actual fact against U.S. partners, and not against the Soviet Union alone.

Many experts in the West believe that an "economic war" would damage the West -- living through an economic recession -- to a greater extent than the East. According to the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the U.S. Department of State, in case major Western industrialised nations slashed in half their export to the USSR in 1982-1983, the increment of the Soviet Union's gross national product would decline a mere 0.2 percent, that is, by 4.5 billion dollars, while that of Western nations would drop by almost 30 billion. A break-off in monetary relations with socialist countries would have ill-predictable consequences for the overstrained capitalist credit and monetary system.

The development of mutually beneficial contacts with socialist countries means major orders for the industries of Western Europe and Japan, jobs for hundreds of thousands people and the lessening of dependence on U.S. monopolies for energy.

In conditions of economic difficulties and mass unemployment this acquires special significance for Western Europe and Japan.

A patently clear plan underlies Washington's attempts to restrict trade, economic and monetary relations between its allies-turned rivals and the socialist countries.

This is to sharply weaken the positions of Western Europe and Japan, for they in that case would be deprived of vast markets, and a stable supply of energy raw materials and other goods. All this accords with the desire of the Reagan administration to tie Western countries to the U.S. economy, to establish U.S. leadership in economic relations with these countries, to restrict the economic activities of the leading capitalist nations and give the goods produced by U.S. monopolies an even wider access to their markets.

One cannot say that U.S. allies do not realise Washington's self-serving motives thinly veiled by the talk about the mythical "Soviet military threat". It is not accidental that, commenting on the new directive of the White House, Britain's GUARDIAN recalls that in the past the attitude of Western European countries to U.S. attempts to block their trade with the USSR was bitterly negative. According to the paper, there are indications that President Reagan is about to repeat a blunder which in effect means a "second front" against its own partners. Well, a more trenchant remark can hardly be made.

PENTAGON LINKS WITH MUNITION COMPANIES NOTED

LD172221 Moscow TASS in English 2117 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] New York March 17 TASS -- Close relations between the Pentagon's leading officials and U.S. munitions corporations have long been an open secret. THE NEW YORK TIMES exposes new scandalous details of this "cooperation."

The newspaper has learned that M. Paisley, under secretary of the Navy, T. Jones, deputy under secretary of defence, and G. Reynolds, deputy director of the Defence Department's arm concerned with intelligence and space policies, who worked for quite a few years for Boeing, one of the leading companies of the military-industrial complex, received unusually large "bonuses", totalling almost half a million dollars, when they took jobs at the Pentagon in 1981.

The corporation recovered the money with interest. Last year alone this concern, specializing in the production of fighters, bombers and space weapons systems, received from the Pentagon orders totalling 3.2 billion dollars.

Quite a few former managers of munitions corporations hold posts of responsibility in the Pentagon and after a few years take up their old jobs. The data of the council of economic priorities indicates that during the past ten years altogether 388 people went over from Boeing to different posts in the Defence Department.

According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the Reagan administration, too, maintains very close and extensive relations with Boeing. During the past two years, in addition to the above three, Richard Perle, assistant defence secretary, and R. Mann, deputy chief of staff of the White House, changed the offices of the corporation for governmental jobs.

The future of Boeing, according to the newspaper, does not worry its leaders because they are confident that during the next few years the corporation's profits will keep growing. These expectations are not entirely groundless.

OW180327 Tokyo KYODO in English 0315 GMT 18 Mar 83

OW180327 Tokyo KYODO in English 0315 GMT 18 Mar 83

Kapitsa told Takashima that the Sino-Soviet talks in Moscow for improving relations have ended in friendly atmosphere and that a Chinese delegation was now on an inspection tour of the Soviet Union.

Takashima was present at a meeting in Moscow last month in which Tikhonov met with a Japanese private trade and economic mission led by Shigeo Nagano, president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. At that time, the Soviet Union promised that Tikhonov would meet with the ambassador in a few days but the meeting has been put off for the premier's work reasons.

OW171437 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 17 Mar 83

OW171437 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] The Chinese Government delegation led by Jia Shi, PRC vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade, made a 3-day visit to Tbilisi, the capital of the Georgian Republic.

Before his departure from Tbilisi, the head of the Chinese Government delegation said: We are extremely pleased that we have had the opportunity to visit the Georgian SSR and its beautiful capital, Tbilisi. The products on display at the Georgian Republic's national economic achievement exhibition are fascinating. They demonstrate the achievements made in the economic and cultural fields. We have seen the rapid development of your republic's industry.

Referring to the recent Soviet-Chinese trade negotiations, Jia Shi pointed out: The negotiations proceeded very smoothly. It was decided that the trade volume between the two countries would be noticeably increased.

Jia Shi said: I believe that through the observance of the principle of equality and mutual benefit and with due regard to needs and possibilities, the Sino-Soviet trade will surely further develop.

START OF JAPAN-U.S. JOINT MILITARY STUDY SCORED

OM170530 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 11 Mar 83

[By Tokyo correspondent Vykukhalev]

[Text] The Japan-U.S. defense cooperation subcommittee will begin talks at the Japanese Foreign Ministry on Saturday, 12 March. The talks mark the start of what is called "The Joint Study of Sealane Defense." Moscow Radio Tokyo correspondent Igor Vykukhalev has filed the following report:

This joint study will reportedly be made by senior officers of Japan's joint staff council and high-ranking officials of the U.S. military command in Japan. To give an outward show of civilian control, the subcommittee meeting will also be participated in by respective representatives from Japan's Foreign Ministry and Defense Agency and the U.S. Embassy in Japan. It is presumed that this arrangement is entirely aimed at allaying wide public apprehension, not only in Japan but also in Southeast Asian countries, that the Japan-U.S. joint study may herald an effort by the Japanese military to speed the nation's military buildup. However, the character and purpose of this joint study will only increase this apprehension.

As is widely known, subjects to be studied in minute detail include the threat of the Soviet Union, a notorious allegation and the scenario of Soviet aggression, concocted by those who are to assume the joint study, as well as actions to be taken in repelling this aggression.

High on the agenda at the joint subcommittee study will be navigation by vessels, including the blockade of three straits, and the so-called "defense" of sealanes. This preparation for the blockade of international waterways will reveal Japan's participation in the aggressive Pacific strategy of the United States.

It is obvious that the joint study violates Japan's "peace constitution," which denies the nation rights to collective defense. What is more, the study of joint actions with U.S. vessels, which are to be equipped with nuclear cruise missiles this year, will deal a new blow at Japan's three nonnuclear principles. There is no doubt that following this Japan-U.S. joint theoretical study, which will begin on 12 March, a new practical measure will be taken to substantially change the military balance in the relevant area under a U.S. plan. It is needless to repeat what threat this new measure will pose to peace in Asia.

U.S. PLANS TO TURN JAPAN INTO 'STAGING AREA'

LD162040 Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Tokyo March 16 TASS -- The Pentagon is pressing forward with its plans to build up the U.S. Navy in the Far East and to turn the Japanese archipelago into a strategic staging area for adventurist actions in the region. A Kyodo Tsushin correspondent reports from Washington that Admiral Watkins, chief of staff of the U.S. Navy, said at a press conference that a detachment of landing and transport vessels would be sent to the Japanese port of Sasebo along with the aircraft carrier group led by the Enterprise. According to Watkins, the deployment of the naval armada, which will also include the new aircraft carrier Carl Vinson and the modernized battleship New Jersey with cruise missiles, is necessary to ensure the operations of the U.S. and Japanese navies in the region.

The admiral did not specify what "operations" he meant but the character of the largest U.S.-South Korean manoeuvres Team Spirit-83 taking place near the Korean peninsula and Washington's and Tokyo's threats to blockade sea straits around the Japanese islands in case of "emergency" demonstrate the Pentagon's aggressive plans aimed against sovereign states in the Far East and Southeast Asia.

The chief of staff of the U.S. Navy made it clear that the present-day Japanese leadership regard with understanding the Pentagon's plans. According to Watkins, Tokyo approves the forthcoming call of the Enterprise at Sasebo and the turning of that port into a base of the U.S. Seventh Fleet on the west coast of the Japanese archipelago and, moreover, welcomes an increase in the number of U.S. warships off the Japanese shores.

The frank statements of the U.S. admiral, demonstrating to the Japanese public the hypocrisy of the ruling circles and their conspiracy with Washington, caused a confusion in Tokyo. M. Gotoda, general secretary of the cabinet of ministers, urgently called a press conference to refute Watkins statements.

Facts show, however, that the course of the Japanese Government actually facilitates the implementation of the U.S. Administration's dangerous plans. This is illustrated by the Japanese military build-up, by Tokyo's consent to the deployment of U.S. F-16 fighter bombers at the Misawa Base, and by the drafting of plans for the Japanese Navy to operate on shipping lanes in the north-west Pacific up to 1,000 miles away from the Japanese shores.

DRAFT OF USSR-JAPAN COOPERATION TREATY DISCUSSED

OW160412 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Commentary by (Viktor Rodionov) on Draft of Treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation]

[Text] Five years have elapsed since the Soviet Government handed over to Japan a draft of the treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation. In this connection, Radio Moscow correspondent (Viktor Rodionov) has the following comments:

The idea of signing such a treaty was brought up much earlier. The late General Secretary Brezhnev sent a letter to the former Prime Minister Takeo Miki on 3 February 1975. In this personal letter, he wrote: Your Excellency the Prime Minister, I share your opinion that the signing of a peace treaty between the Soviet Union and Japan would be an important key to strengthening relations of good-neighborliness between the two countries, as well as guarantee for peace and security in Asia. At the same time, it is my opinion that, to study a treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation while continuing with negotiations on the signing of a peace treaty, would not only be reasonable, but also beneficial. The signing of such a treaty would be a fair step towards the signing of a peace treaty. With the signing of a treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation, the Soviet Union and Japan would enter an essentially new stage in their mutual relations, and the treaty would be accepted with understanding by the people of the two countries, as well as by all people engaged in the fight for peace and security in Asia. This was stated in the late General Secretary Brezhnev's personal letter to former Prime Minister Miki.

Other principles concerning the issue were also positively stated in General Secretary Brezhnev's reply to the questions of the ASAHI SHIMBUN in June 1977. His reply reads as follows:

As we understand it correctly, Japan is not yet ready to agree to the signing of a peace treaty. Taking this fact into consideration, we have made the following suggestion:

Without discontinuing negotiations on the signing of a peace treaty, the Soviet Union and Japan should exchange views on the signing of a treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation, covering various fields of the Soviet-Japanese relations, as the time is now ripe for the two countries to promote their relations on the basis of a solid treaty. In this way, we firmly believe, the remnants of distrust will be eliminated and a sudden change will be brought about, ensuring the development of reciprocal cooperation in various fields. This was stated in General Secretary Brezhnev's reply to the ASAHI SHIMBUN.

The draft of the treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation was first handed over to Japan when the then Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda was visiting the Soviet Union in the winter of 1978. In handing over this draft to the Japanese side, the Soviet side stressed that, through the signing of this treaty, the Soviet Union and Japan would be able to make a great advance in promoting relations between the two countries. To our regret, however, the official quarters in Japan have assumed a negative attitude towards the Soviet draft and have refused to study it actively. Furthermore, measures have been taken to distort the contents and meaning of the treaty.

For example, those who have assumed a critical attitude towards the draft of the treaty have asserted that the Soviet Union attempts to shelve the signing of a peace treaty by signing the treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation. However, this is pure fabrication. It is clearly stated in the treaty's preamble that the Soviet Union intends to continue negotiations on the signing of a peace treaty.

Considering that situation, in which Japan was not yet ready to sign a peace treaty, the Soviet Union made the proposal of signing a treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation. In his personal letter to former Prime Minister Fukuda on 14 February 1978, the late General Secretary Brezhnev stressed that the treaty would not impair the interests or stand of either side but that, on the contrary, it would provide excellent conditions for continuing negotiations on the signing of a peace treaty.

No pains have been spared to make fabrications to generate an unfavorable feeling among the Japanese people towards the Soviet draft of the treaty. For instance, in the fifth article of the Soviet draft of the treaty, it is stipulated that both sides should hold consultations on major international issues, including the situation in which the maintenance of peace is threatened. Those Japanese, who have assumed a critical attitude towards the draft, have given a misinterpretation to this article, saying that it indicates Soviet ambition to undermine Japan's independent foreign policy and turn her into a satellite state. And they have even gone so far as to say that mutual consultations would give the treaty the nature of a military alliance. All these objections are groundless. The proposal for consultations indicates that the Soviet Union holds Japan in respect and attaches importance to her as an influential force in the international arena.

A similar article on consultations is also stipulated in the 1972 document concerning the basis of mutual relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, the 1970 Soviet-French protocol, the 1972 Soviet-Italian protocol and the 1971 Soviet-Canadian protocol on consultation. Just because it is stated in the protocol that an agreement has been reached on political consultations, no one would ever call France, for example, a satellite state of the Soviet Union.

It is stipulated in the third article that both sides have the obligation of not allowing their own territory to be used for any act which might cause danger to the security of the other side. This obligation has been distorted, and it is asserted that the treaty would directly jeopardize the existence of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. However, the Soviet Union would also assume the obligation, in accordance with the article, of not allowing its own territory to be used for any act which might endanger Japan's security.

Should the Japanese side show no intention of responding to mutual concessions, and should it further refuse to make concessions under the pretext of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, the question would arise that, in so doing, Japan had admitted that the spearhead of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty was directed against the Soviet Union. Furthermore, those who have apprehensions about the existence of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty should read the 13th article of the Soviet draft of the treaty. It is clearly stipulated, in this article, that the treaty would not be in contravention of any bilateral or multilateral treaties or agreements signed by the Soviet Union or Japan prior to the signing of this treaty.

Many more examples can be cited to indicate the attempt by those who oppose the Soviet draft of the treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation to depreciate it by resorting to every possible fabrication. However, the point at issue does not lie in this.

Since the draft of the treaty was handed over to the Japanese side, the Soviet Union has kept its stand that any amendments of or supplements to, the treaty, acceptable to both sides, can be made in the course of discussing the draft. The point at issue now is for both sides to sit down at the negotiating table and start discussing the draft.

If Japanese official quarters wish to indicate, not merely in words but in action, their desire to contribute to the maintenance and development of normal relations with the Soviet Union and to the guarantee of the peace and security in the Far East and in Asia as a whole, then they should come and sit down at the negotiating table.

As far as the Soviet side is concerned, it is ever ready to discuss the treaty of good-neighborliness and cooperation with Japan even now, as it was 5 years ago. The Soviet side holds that the signing of such a treaty conforms to the interests of the people of the Soviet Union and Japan and also to the interests of peace and security on the earth.

JAPAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION MEETS

OW161147 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Report by Tokyo correspondent Igor Vykukhalev]

[Text] The Japan-Soviet Friendship Association held its 19th regular general meeting at the (Bancho Kyosai Kaikan) Hall in Tokyo on 12 March. Radio Moscow Tokyo correspondent Igor Vykukhalev has filed the following report on the meeting:

(Munenori Akagi), president of the Japan-Soviet Friendship Association and a Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] dietman, stated in his opening speech that the improvement of the relations and further promotion of friendship with Soviet Union will be of great value to Japan's security as well as to peace in the Far East and whole world.

The general meeting reviewed the results of activities sponsored by the association in 1982. "Pledge Against Wars" antiwar rallies jointly sponsored by the Soviet Union and Japan were held in Moscow, Leningrad, Khabarovsk, Volgograd and Minsk in August of last year. The general meeting pointed out, in particular, that these rallies were of great value.

Vladimir Pavlov, Soviet Ambassador to Japan, addressed the meeting and stated: The activities of the Japan-Soviet Friendship Association have made extremely valuable contributions to the promotion of good-neighborliness and cooperation between the two countries. The Soviet Union and the Soviet people are doing and will continue to do their best to promote friendly relations and cooperation with all countries and particularly with our neighbor, Japan. This was what Ambassador Pavlov said at the meeting.

Present at the meeting were a delegation of the Union of the Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Japan Society, including Viktor Zabelin, vice minister of the Soviet Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises. Viktor Zabelin, leader of the delegation, addressed the meeting and stated that the prevention of nuclear wars is a common task for all of mankind at present. The common efforts by the people of both the Soviet Union and Japan will make great contributions to the fulfillment of this task.

The general meeting discussed and approved the plans for the association's activities in 1983. President (Akagi) and Zabelin, leader of the Soviet delegation, signed a program for cooperation between the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Japan Society on the one hand and the Japan-Soviet Friendship Association on the other, for the year 1983.

Included in this program are activities commemorating the 113th anniversary of Lenin's birth, the "Japan-Soviet friendship month" activities marking the 66th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution, and the activities introducing the Russian SFSR and Tadzhik SSR, all to be sponsored by the Japan-Soviet Friendship Association.

In addition to sponsoring the "Soviet-Japan friendship month" activities in the Soviet Union, the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries as well as the Soviet-Japan Society will hold "Peace and Friendship Day" activities in the Uzbek SSR and will cooperate with the Japanese side in sponsoring the Soviet-Japan joint rally "Pledge Against Wars" rally to be held in the Soviet Union in August.

JAPANESE FORCES TRAINED TO SUPPRESS OPPOSITION

PM161137 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 3

[Report by own correspondent K. Rashidov: "The Military's Dangerous Plans"]

[Text] Tokyo -- In the event of "internal disturbances" occurring in Japan the "self-defense forces" will play an active part in liquidating them. Moreover, they see it as their task to suppress opposition parties. This revelation in parliament by Komeito Party Deputy A. Kuroyanagi produced a most acute reaction in the country.

A document from the safe of Japan's National Defense Agency which the deputy submitted is irrefragable evidence that the Japanese Army is being trained to suppress political parties' constitutional rights and the very "principle of democratic freedoms." It includes data on the plans for "emergency" action elaborated annually by the Japanese Armed Forces. Sometimes as many as 400 documents are incorporated in these "plans."

The evidence given in parliament shows that the military is gradually releasing itself from the control of the civil authorities and the government. There has been much confirmation of this in the past two weeks. The behind-the-scenes activity of the "self-defense forces" was roundly condemned a few days ago -- again in parliament -- by Deputy Y. Narzaki. He stressed that the Japanese public is still in a state of ignorance concerning the planned military coup which was foiled in 1980. A large group of military men, including officers from all branches of the forces, was involved in it. The idea was that 10,000 men from an infantry division stationed in Nagoya and an assault battalion from Chiba Prefecture, near Tokyo, should be involved in the plot.

The date cited by Y. Narazaki are also corroborated by a "self-defense forces" officer, who wished to remain anonymous, quoted by the paper TOKYO SHIMBUN. According to him, the conspirators intended to make a main napalm [as published] assault on the prime minister's office and follow that by seizing important state, civic and political buildings. And although the official authorities did not confirm the existence of a planned coup, many Japanese are alarmed by such reports.

The country's public is demanding explanations. The demands are perfectly justified. But there has been no response to them.

JAPAN'S 'NORTHERN TERRITORIES CENSUS' CRITICIZED

PM151603 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Mar 83 p 9

[Article by Sergey Dashkov: "Small Pawns and a Big Game"]

[Text] H. Niwa -- Director general of the present Japanese Prime Minister's Office -- has departed from the traditions of his predecessors in this responsible post. The weather is to blame. While former director generals viewed the "northern territories" from the sea or air, he has to remain on the Japanese shore and observe them from there -- to see how the "occupied" islands are faring. What could he do -- there was a storm raging.

Indeed, the deed has been done. The Japanese Cabinet has yet again displayed pointed attention toward the foreign territories commonly termed the "northern" territories and a resolute intention to regain these territories. In addition to regular visits from successive director generals of the Prime Minister's Office, an annual "Northern Territories Day" has been instituted and various symposiums, meetings and signature collections are held -- each new cabinet in recent years has sought to swell this list.

On 1 April the so-called "law on taking special steps to resolve the problem of the northern territories and related questions" is to come into force. A "census of the population of the three islands in the Japanese northern territories, Kunashir, Shikotan and Iturup" is also scheduled for this notable date (April Fool's Day has nothing to do with it).

The event promises to be most curious. It is a question of registering the people who allegedly live on a territory which allegedly belongs to Japan. To be more precise, to persuade a certain number of Japanese to "register" on the Soviet Kuril Islands. Or to be even more precise to whip up the already noisy campaign over the nonexistent problem of the "northern territories" -- a problem which is nonetheless obstinately fueled by the Japanese side and the United States.

The Ministry of Justice has appointed the mayor of the city of Nemuro as the official responsible for the "census." All business devolves on him. Even if you have never visited the "northern territories" -- no one will worry. You only have to put in a claim and you will immediately be "registered" and become one more -- very small -- pawn in the big game which revanchist circles in Japan are playing. Under these circles' influence attacks are being stepped up against the peace articles of the constitution, the military budget is growing and the army is being equipped with sophisticated weaponry. The Japanese maritime security agency has included the southern part of the Kuril Islands in the sphere of operation of its warships and one-third of the Japanese armed forces' personnel and half their fire power are already concentrated on Hokkaido.

So the "census" is not that curious. Together with other essentially anti-Soviet "events" it is playing into the hands of those who would like to continue to make unjustified and hopeless claims on our country.

U.S., S. KOREA 'INFILTRATED' N. KOREAN AIRSPACE

SK180254 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] According to a KCNA report, yesterday U.S. and South Korea Air Force aircraft twice infiltrated into DPRK territorial airspace [yonggong] east of Kosong. The news agency said that the acts of provocation were committed during the course of the large U.S. and South Korean naval exercise.

ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-DPRK AGREEMENT MARKED

SK180723 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 17 Mar 83

[(Mikhaylov) commentary on the 34th anniversary of the conclusion of the USSR-DPRK economic and cultural agreement]

[Text] The Soviet-Korea Economic and Cultural Agreement, concluded on 17 Mar 1949, was, for People's Korea, the first international legal document based on the principle of socialist (?cooperation).

The agreement stipulated complete equality between the two sides, mutual respect for independence, mutual assistance and comradely support.

These principles were further consolidated and developed by the Treaty for Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance which was concluded in 1961 between the Soviet Union and the DPRK the first worker-peasant state of Korea.

Experience has shown that friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have served as a firm foundation enabling the working people of People's Korea to eliminate the aftermath of the colonial past in the briefest period in history and to confidently advance along the road of building a new society.

This fact is eloquently proved by the following: In the DPRK, the same amount of goods as was produced in all of 1948 is now produced in several days. The economic structure of the country, which had remained as a colony of the Japanese imperialists before its liberation by the Soviet Army, has basically changed. In the DPRK the machine tool, vehicle, machine, and other modern industries are established and have developed successfully. At the same time, national cadres for the revolution have been nurtured and an extensive college and middle technical school system has been established. Great achievements have been attained in road construction, the establishment of irrigation systems, and mechanization to eliminate the hardships of labor in rural areas. The working people of People's Korea have won brilliant achievements in scientific, cultural, and health work and in the promotion of the people's welfare.

The Soviet people always consider their support for the fraternal Korean people in socialist construction as their international duty. More than 3,000 Soviet technicians, shoulder to shoulder with the Korean friends, are working at the construction sites of People's Korea.

With their participation, 60 major industrial plants and other plants have been restored, built or expanded. They have become the backbone of the national economy. The Pukchang thermal power plant, one of the largest power plants in Asia; the Kim Chaek iron works, which produces 50 percent of the total pig iron and a quarter of the total steel output of the republic; and the Pyongyang textile plant are examples.

Reciprocal cooperation continues between our two countries, for instance, with Soviet support, aluminum, enamel, bearings, vehicle battery, and small motor plants are being built in the DPRK. Soviet-Korean trade is also being expanded. In consideration of the demands of the rapidly growing economy of people's Korea, the Soviet Union is supplying people's Korea with modern facilities, machine tools, machinery, petroleum products, precision tools, and equipment needed for the automation and mechanization of production process. Meanwhile, the DPRK is supplying the Soviet Union with ferrous and non-ferrous metal materials, magnesia clinker, cement, some products from the light and food industries.

Scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries is being further expanded as time passes. To share experiences and exchange up-to-date scientific and technical knowledge, scholars in various scientific fields and delegations of technicians visit each other. This has now become a proud tradition.

Cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and the DPRK is also expanding every year. The peoples of our two countries have opportunities to appreciate the performances of the top-class art troupes and the works of the writers, composers, and artists of the two countries. All these are contributing to the development of the socialist culture of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Korea.

The past 34 years since the conclusion of the USSR-DPRK economic and cultural agreement have shown that the agreement has greatly contributed to the friendship between our two countries and peoples and to the consolidation of reciprocal cooperation between the two government.

SOVIET MILITARY DELEGATION VISITS MONGOLIA

Shkadov to Participate

PM161631 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Delegation's Departure"]

[Text] A Soviet military delegation headed by Army General I.N. Shkadov, USSR deputy defense minister, has left Moscow for Ulaanbaatar. The delegation will participate in the festivities marking the 62d anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army.

MPR Army Celebration Observed

LD172001 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1850 GMT 17 Mar

[Text] A festive meeting has taken place in Ulaanbaatar of representatives of party, state and public organizations, working people of the Mongolian capital and servicemen of the Armed Forces of the Mongolian Peoples' Republic, devoted to the 62nd anniversary of the creation of the Mongolian Peoples' Army. Comrades Tsedenbal, Batmunkh and other leaders of the republic's party and government, and a Soviet military delegation led by USSR Deputy Defense Minister Army General Shkadov, participated in the meeting.

USSR AWARD PRESENTED TO MONGOLIAN DEFENSE MINISTER

LD171518 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] By a decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Colonel General Jamsrangiyn Yendon, minister of defense of the Mongolian People's Republic, has been awarded the Order of the Red Banner. This is in recognition of his services in the joint struggle against the Japanese militarists, his great contribution to the cause of strengthening militant comity between the Soviet Army and the Mongolian People's Army, and in connection with his 60th birthday.

AFGHAN REBELS GO OVER TO DRA GOVERNMENT SIDE

PM180917 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Mar 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Returning Home"]

[Text] Kabul, 12 Mar -- An ever increasing number of Afghan citizens duped by false imperialist propaganda are returning home and declaring their support for the government and the PDPA. The work of the Jirga (assembly) of former leaders of counter-revolutionary formations who have gone over to the people's power is evidence of that.

Addressing the Jirga, (G. Rasul) from Herat Province exposed the anti-Afghan activity of the U.S. and Pakistani espionage departments, which are training and arming the bandit gangs. The participants in the Jirga declared their readiness to actively join in the process of the transformations being carried out in the country.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA PROFILES AFGHAN WAR HERO

PM171431 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent Lieutenant Colonel A. Andryushkov under the rubric "The Army and Navy's Leading Men": "The Valor of a Political Worker"; the report is accompanied by a 6 by 4-inch head-and-shoulders portrait of Major V. Kopchikov]

[Text] The mighty rotary-wing MI-8 slowly turned its drooping blades. Major Kopchikov eyed the helicopter with pride and affection, as though it were a loyal friend. Once again it had not let the crew down and had helped it to successfully accomplish its mission. Technical service Senior Lieutenant Pavel Tkach was solicitously stroking the rotorcraft's fuselage, as though easing a pain. "Yes, she is in pain," Vladimir Fedorovich thought.

The crew's navigator, military pilot 2d class Senior Lieutenant Nikolay Mkorousov, then counted 15 dushman bullet marks in the fuselage. Here is how it happened. Afghan comrades informed us that a village had been attacked by a gang. Food and clothing had been taken from the residents and the houses set on fire. There were many wounded. Bread, water and medication had to be rushed to the people. The squadron commander's reply to the question "Who's going?" was: "Major Kopchikov will lead the crew."

Major Kopchikov, military pilot 1st class and squadron deputy political officer, was generally called the commissar by his fellows. The men used this word of people in whom they have great faith and whom they respect. It invoked in them memories of the commissars in the civil and great patriotic wars who covered themselves with glory and displayed military valor. Communist Vladimir Fedorovich Kopchikov has become a worthy continuer of their cause. He was among the first Soviet servicemen to arrive in the DRA to help the Afghan people in their just struggle for freedom and independence. With a perfect mastery of the technique of piloting an MI-8 helicopter, Major Kopchikov has successfully accomplished the most difficult missions. On more than one occasion he has landed his machine in an inaccessible mountain region or on a tiny scrap of ground in a village and given assistance to victims of dushman bandit raids. The rotorcraft's crew has saved the lives of so many people.

People are drawn to Major Kopchikov. He is strong, a good, principled, reliable man.

Vladimir Fedorovich's comrades have become deeply convinced of this during his service in Afghanistan. He has shared all the hardships of service on an equal footing with them. He has been the first to come to the aid of the disaster-stricken. He has acted intelligently and skillfully, making the best of a situation. And whenever there has been an hour or two of free time between flights Major Kopchikov has mixed with the men chatting to one and helping another to get equipment ready. In between times he will talk about world events or sit among the aircraft mechanics and enquire as to what people are writing about back home. Conversations of this kind enable the men to unwind.

Vladimir Fedorovich has inspired his subordinates by personal example. He himself has drawn support from the men. He has constantly consulted with the communists. Whether preparing a party political work schedule or organizing some other undertaking, he is sure to discuss it with Captain Yu. Lebedev, secretary of the squadron party bureau, Captain A. Klimanov, chief of staff of the subunit, and other comrades. Captain A. Sergeyev once breached discipline. He was a good pilot but tried to place his own personal interests above society's. Kopchikov tried to reason with him, only to hear in reply: "Our service is hard and risky; we can relax once in a while." "No we can't," Vladimir Fedorovich said, and suggested continuing the conversation at a party meeting....

Starting out on the mission, Kopchikov had complete confidence in his comrades. It was another tough one. Bandits had prepared an ambush in the helicopter pilots' zone of operations. The crews came under fire. After surrendering to Afghan servicemen, the Dushmans were later to admit that they had been firing with U.S.-made weapons. Bullets thudded against the Mi-8's fuselage. Kopchikov ordered the supporting craft to maneuver. He used his own helicopter to divert the bandits' attention. The mission was accomplished on schedule.

Communist Kopchikov has taken his helicopter up more than 500 times in the performance of his international duty. The motherland has marked his military labor in a fitting manner by awarding him the Order of Lenin and the Order of the Red Banner.

TASS COMMENTS ON U.S. ACTIVITIES ON DIEGO GARCIA

LD172200 Moscow TASS in English 2027 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Excerpts] New Delhi March 17 TASS -- Quoting eyewitness accounts, the Press Trust of India reports that the United States continues to expand in every way its military base on Diego Garcia, thus consolidating its military presence in that region. New facts to this effect have been cited by the French priest Alen (?Aren, who was) allowed to visit the jealously guarded island to perform services for persons doing contract work there under the close supervision of the U.S. authorities.

Some of those people are widening and extending the runways to accommodate B-52 strategic bombers with nuclear weapons, others are building piers in the deep-water bay by the coast to receive U.S. warships. The U.S. military authorities show moving concern for their own personnel on the island. The American army men have at their disposal well-appointed homes with cosy flats, complete with air conditioning, a cinema house, a supermarket and other facilities.

Disregarding the appeals of the world community and the resolutions of international forums on turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace as well as the legitimate demand of the People of Mauritius to return the Diego Garcia Island, belonging to it, the United States is speeding up the militarisation of the Indian Ocean, graphically demonstrating to the whole world the aggressive character of U.S. foreign policy.

PAPER ASSAILS U.S. PLANS FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA

PM171525 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Expanding Supplies"]

[Text] Washington, 12 Mar -- The R. Reagan administration intends to sharply expand arms supplies to "friendly" Southeast Asian regimes and regards them as an important element in the escalation of the U.S. military presence in the region. This was clearly shown at the hearings held in a subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

As R. Armitage, deputy assistant defense secretary, who addressed the hearings, stated the program of military aid to a number of Southeast Asian countries is an "absolutely necessary supplement" to the overall policy of U.S. arms buildup.

The bulk of the military aid "package" will go to South Korea, Thailand and the Philippines, on which Washington has placed the main reliance for the implementation of its hegemonist schemes in this region. P. Wolfowitz, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Asian and Pacific affairs, who addressed the hearings, announced that Seoul would receive \$230 million in military aid in fiscal 1984. That sum would be spent on supplying the South Korean puppets with the latest U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers and equipment for the production of F-15 fighters. The Chon Tu-hwan cliques will also receive Tow anti-tank shells, Hawk missiles and other modern weaponry.

The military aid to the Philippines, which the United States is trying increasingly actively to draw into the orbit of its adventures in the region, totals about \$100 million. Manila will receive military helicopters, naval equipment, electronic communications systems and other hardware. As was clear from P. Wolfowitz' words, the United States attaches special significance to the use of the Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Base, located on Philippines territory, which "have advantageous geographical positions" and "enable the United States to respond to emergencies in the Indian and Pacific Oceans." This means primarily operations by the interventionist Rapid Deployment Forces.

It is planned to increase military aid to Thailand to \$99 million, or by 8.8 percent in comparison with the current fiscal year.

ASEAN'S ARMS PURCHASE 'CONTRADICTS' DEVELOPMENT AIMS

LD171845 Moscow TASS in English 1705 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasily Kharkov writes: Washington is saturating ASEAN countries with American weapons and is striving for the creation there of military enterprises dependent on American companies. This conclusion is drawn by the Philippine newspaper BULLETIN TODAY. It writes that the role of a major purchase of American arms that Washington is allotting to the ASEAN countries is incompatible with their national interests. Militarisation imposed by outside pressure undermines economic and social development, creates the danger of the further drawing of ASEAN countries into the orbit of American military strategy in the region.

All reasons exit for such a conclusion. Very alarming trend -- the constant growth of military spending -- is being observed in ASEAN countries. This spending has almost doubled during the past five years. It is the United States that is pushing them to this road. Thus, during his tour of Southeast Asia late last year the head of the Pentagon, Weinberger, insisted that the further growth of the military budgets of these countries should become a "top priority".

The United States often imposed on ASEAN countries such arms that are by no means required by their defence needs. Thus, it is intended to sell Singapore costly AWACS planes intended for offensive operations. Big outlays on military aims are especially burdensome for these countries because they are experiencing considerable economic difficulties stemming from the plunderous policy of foreign monopolies. The latter are trying to keep the ASEAN countries in the position of suppliers of raw materials while at the same time erecting ever new barriers in their markets for the output of the young industry of these countries. Their total foreign debt by the end of the last year reached 66 billion dollars. In some of these countries the unemployment rate runs at 15-20 per cent.

Militarisation and the growth of military allocations are diverting badly needed means from financing important economic projects, from the fulfillment of socio-economic programmes. In Malaysia, for instance, spending on economic development last year was slashed by 1.75 billion ringits. The import of American arms means fewer imports of industrial equipment and farm machinery. Military budgets are growing but the living standards of the population in most casts are declining.

The example of ASEAN countries confirms once again the provision of the economic declaration adopted in New Delhi by the recent conference of non-aligned countries -- militarisation contradicts the aims of development and resources freed by measures of disarmament should be directed to meet the needs of development.

IZVESTIYA ON U.S.-PHILIPPINE DEFENSE TALKS

PM171313 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent Yu. Kovalenko dispatch under the rubric "pertinent remarks":
"Pentagon's Fetters"]

[Text] Manila [no date given] -- Talks have been held in Washington between Juan Ponce Enrile, Philippine minister of national defense, and C. Weinberger, head of the American military department. This was the first round in regular consultations between the two countries' defense ministers, agreement on holding which was reached last fall during the U.S. visit of Philippine President F. Marcos.

The results of the consultation which took place attest that the United States intends to continue building up its forces in Southeast Asia, to strengthen the "forward lines" of American defense, increase arms deliveries and expand military cooperation with the ASEAN countries. Pentagon boss C. Weinberger frankly declared that the west Pacific, where these states are located, is of key significance for the U.S. global "defense strategy."

Washington views its relations with ASEAN as a whole and with the Philippines in particular through the prism of this "defense strategy." After the creation of the U.S. "Central Command," whose operating sphere includes the territory of 19 countries in Asia, Africa and the Near East, Washington began placing still greater emphasis on "linking up" in a unified system its bases subordinate to the Centcom with those bases in the west Pacific, and in the Philippines above all. With the help of the two biggest American military bases -- Clark Field and Subic Bay, situated in the Philippines -- the United States, according to P. Wolfowitz, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, intends to "defend" the Pacific expanses.

This means that the bases will be used as a bridgehead for committing acts of aggression against other countries and peoples and will serve as a springboard for the American "Rapid Deployment Forces." A recent statement by American officials attests that the Pentagon is planning to strengthen still further its military installations in the Philippines and to increase considerably deliveries of weapons to that country.

Washington is still trying to justify the escalation of its military presence in Southeast Asia with the help of the notorious myth of the "Soviet military threat." In an attempt to hinder the development of relations between the ASEAN states and the Soviet Union, the United States is continuing to conduct a fierce anti-Soviet campaign in the association's member countries.

Washington was reckoning that the anti-Soviet "theme" would also resound loudly at the American-Philippine talks, but, to the American side's great displeasure, that did not happen. On the eve of the visit Juan Ponce Enrile, Philippine minister of national defense, had declared that his country maintains friendly relations with the Soviet Union and -- contrary to American propaganda allegations -- certainly does not believe that the USSR has any aggressive intentions against the Philippines.

The results of the talks held have shown that the United States continues to cherish plans for the gradual transformation of ASEAN, which was set up to resolve tasks of socioeconomic development, into a military grouping obedient to Washington's will. However, the Pentagon's plans are meeting with a growing rebuff from broad sections of the Philippine public.

AUSTRALIAN 'YELLOW RAIN' ANALYSIS CITED

LD172237 Moscow TASS in English 2022 GMT 17 Mar 83

["Falsehood Exposed" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Canberra March 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Solovyev reports:

Australia's Ministry of External Affairs confirmed that the "canard" circulated by U.S. propaganda about the alleged use of toxic agents of the "Soviet make" in states of Indochina is an absolute lie. The Foreign Policy Department pointed to the results of an analysis by specialists of the Australian Defense Ministry of samples of leaves, rock and soil from Laos that were brought from the USA. According to assertions of U.S. representatives they were subjected to the effect of toxic chemicals -- the so-called "yellow rain."

The laboratory of the Defence Ministry thoroughly analysed the samples and arrived at the conclusion that the yellow substance is not toxic and that it was placed on purpose, apparently by a brush or a sprayer.

U.S. official propaganda has long been trying to convince the world public that in Laos, Kampuchea, Afghanistan, and some African countries, the Soviet Union and its friends allegedly use "yellow rain" in operations against armed rebels. But since Washington's lies are hardly believed by anyone, the United States from time to time stages shows with verification of "irreversible proofs".

There has been a flop in the case with Australia. The Australians refused to play the role assigned for them in the dirty farce. A group of high-ranking officials of the U.S. State Department and the U.S. intelligence services urgently arrived in Canberra. They tried to get from the Australian authorities the confirmation of the absurd proofs. But scientists had already had their say. Finally the sides made an arrangement that the Australians will not be publicising the results of the analysis.

But it is impossible to conceal the truth. The press has learned about the results of the analysis. There was an interpellation in Parliament and an official statement of the minister for external affairs has now been published, as the statement says, after a consultation with the minister of defence.

III. 18 Mar 83

U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
E A S T E R N E U R O P E

F 1

PZPR'S CZYREK LEADS DELEGATION ON VISIT

LD172126 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Mar 83
[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Comrade Czyrek, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, with a group of leading workers of the apparatus of the party Central Committee, visited Moscow on a working visit on 16-17 March. Meetings were held with Comrade Chernenko, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and also in CPSU Central Committee Departments. Comrade Kociulek, ambassador of the Polish People's Republic to the USSR, was present at the meetings. Questions of further CPSU-PZPR cooperation were examined during the conversation which were held in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

PRAVDA ON HUNGARIAN EFFORTS TO BEAT RECESSION

PM171603 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch by correspondent V. Gerasimov: "If You approach It in a Proprietorial Manner: What Our Friends Are Working On"]

[Excerpts] Budapest [no date given] -- Jozsef (?Chontos), general director of the Kobanya textile combine -- Kobtext for short -- leads me through the shops and everywhere shows me ever new signs of recent modernizations which have produced substantial results. The textile workers' "itineraries" through the units have been revised, as have the raw material and textile flow lines. Instruction in new work methods has been organized. For instance, in the spinning shop the number of jobs has as a result been successfully reduced from 87 to 69. In the weaving shop the proportion of first-quality textiles has risen from 92 to 98 percent. In shops where STB automated micro-shuttles have been installed, labor productivity has risen by an average of 43 percent.

The reorganization of Kobtext, effected without additional capital investments and with the aid of small appropriations is notable. It is a promising direction for the national economy's development, it is believed in the republic.

Last year and indeed this year have been hard for the Hungarian national economy. Economic conditions in the world remain unfavorable. The country has had to channel the bulk of its national income increase into covering losses in prices in foreign trade, since prices for the commodities which Hungary imports have increased more than those of its exports. For instance, prices of agricultural produce -- a very important source of Hungarian revenue -- have dropped considerably. Market conditions have changed: various discriminatory measures directed by the capitalist countries against fraternal Poland have also affected Hungary. And although in the past 4 years Hungary has increased its exports and reduced by 20 percent its imports from the capitalist countries, questions of maintaining a foreign trade balance and solvency remain paramount.

The MSZMP Central Committee December plenum last year noted that the results of economic work for 1982 had helped to improve the economic balance and maintain living standards. Hungary met its international payment commitments on time. The population's provision with goods was uninterrupted. However, production's profitability and competitiveness did not improve enough to neutralize the adverse impact of the world economy.

A conference of leaders of industrial enterprises was held recently which was addressed by Lajos Mehes, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and Hungarian minister of industry. He said that the demands now made on the enterprises -- to improve the foreign trade balance, accelerate the updating of output and make more rational use of raw material and energy and manpower -- have become more rigorous. This year funds for capital investments are being cut back still further. Sharp criticism was leveled against those enterprises which work at a loss and inefficiently. Various measures are envisaged to change their production structure.

This year new economic regulators have been commissioned. They are aimed at prompting enterprises to maneuver their manpower even better. Deductions into the state budget from the wages fund will increase 10 percent. Prices have been increased for energy sources -- by an average of 4 percent. This will serve as an incentive to the further consolidation of the regime of thrift. Lagging enterprises can set about assimilating new capital investments only with special authorization. Financial levers will oblige economic leaders to reduce or eliminate their stocks and make better use of them. And finally a new system will be introduced for regulating wages. It will make the increase in wages dependent not on short-term profit but mainly on the level of profitability. The growth of labor productivity, efficiency and exports is thus encouraged. The working people's incomes will be differentiated to a greater extent depending on the quantity and quality of their work.

The stricter state regulators, the Hungarian press notes, will make leaders be inventive and resourceful, to count every forint responsibly and not to be afraid of taking a calculated risk to achieve high indicators.

ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-BULGARIAN TREATY MARKED

Pelshe, Rusakov Mark Anniversary

LD171736 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Representatives of the working people of Moscow have held a meeting dedicated to the 35th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The meeting was held in the Hall of Columns at the House of Unions; those in the presidium included Comrade Pelshe, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Comrade Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; leaders of a number of ministries and departments, and representatives of party, soviet and public organizations.

It was noted in the addresses made that the treaty, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, has marked one of the important stages in the further deepening of fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria.

Bulgarian Ambassador on Treaty

PM170001 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "On the Anniversary"]

[Text] The Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between Bulgaria and the USSR, signed 35 years ago, is one of the most important milestones in the history of the development of mutual relations between the two countries' fraternal peoples. This was stated by D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, at a press conference in Moscow.

The logical continuation of that document, the Ambassador went on, is the new treaty signed 19 years later in May 1967. After briefing journalists on Bulgaria's successes D. Zhulev stressed that they were possible thanks to the extensive, multifaceted cooperation between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union. At all stages of socialist building Bulgaria has been constantly aware of the fraternal, selfless assistance of the multinational Soviet state and the CPSU.

Messages Exchanged

LD172116 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Mar 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have sent a greetings telegram to the leaders of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Comrades Todor Zhivkov and Grisha Filipov, in connection with the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Bulgarian Treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance. The treaty, founded on the principles of socialist internationalism, laid a firm foundation for our political, economic and cultural cooperation, in the name of the common noble aims of the construction of socialism and communism, consolidation of peace in general, the telegram reads. With every year our cooperation is increased with ever deeper content. The relations between our parties and countries are typified by trust, and full unanimity of views on the major questions of today, notes the telegram. There is an undeviating rise in the efficiency of economic ties on a bilateral basis, and within the framework of the CEMA. Together with the other fraternal countries, the Soviet Union and Bulgaria take an active part in the activity of the Warsaw Treaty organization, that reliable instrument for protecting socialism, the cause of peace and security.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers wished the fraternal Bulgarian people great successes in fulfilling the decisions of 12th BCP Congress, and new achievements in the construction of an advanced socialist society in the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The telegram of comrades Todor Zhivkov and Grisha Filipov to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers stresses that the Bulgarian Communist Party and all the working people of Bulgaria will continue to apply tireless efforts to successfully implement the joint, fruitful course for comprehensive fraternal cooperation and rapprochement between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, which constitutes a real contribution to the consolidation of the unity and solidarity of the socialist community and all peace-loving and progressive forces in the world.

KOMSOMOL DELEGATION VISITS YUGOSLAVIA

PM171353 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 83 p 3

[Correspondent V. Kosarev report: "Strengthen Cooperation"]

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Mar -- A Lenin Komsomol delegation headed by Komsomol Central Committee Secretary Yu.A. Dergausov has visited the SFRY at the invitation of the conference of the League of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia. During talks with Plavko Parac, member of the conference presidium and president of the international relations commission, there was an examination of questions of cooperation between the two countries' youth unions and a discussion of a plan for joint functions in the next 2 years. The sides stressed the desire of the league of socialist youth of Yugoslavia and the Komsomol to develop and strengthen bilateral ties.

The Lenin Komsomol delegation visited the Croatian Socialist Republic and the Vojvodina Socialist Autonomous Province.

The Komsomol delegation was received at the LCY Central Committee.

ADDITIONAL REPORTAGE ON REAGAN, LUBBERS TALKS

LD162302 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1155 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Washington, 16 Mar (TASS) -- Talks have taken place in the White House between U.S. President R. Reagan and Prime Minister of the Netherlands R. Lubbers, who is here on an official visit. Also taking part were U.S. Vice President G. Bush, State Secretary G. Shultz, Defense Secretary C. Weinberger, and other U.S. Government officials. A broad range of problems was discussed, of which, as reported in U.S. official circles, main attention was devoted to East-West relations, the situation in NATO, and the plans of this bloc to deploy the new American nuclear missiles on European territory. The Netherlands is one of five countries of the North Atlantic bloc in which Washington intends to deploy 572 cruise and Pershing II missiles, despite strong protests from the Dutch and West European public.

A press conference held by R. Reagan and R. Lubbers after the meeting showed that the master of the White House again, as with other talks with the United States' West European partners, took recourse to arm-twisting tactics, trying to get from the Netherlands official agreement to the deployment of American missiles. As is known, under pressure from public opinion, political circles in this country including the ruling party, as before are considerably opposed to Washington's plans.

This is precisely why, when speaking to correspondents, R. Reagan spoke of the need for "unity in the West" on the question of the "modernization" of the arms of the North Atlantic bloc, and also in approach to the Soviet-American arms talks in Geneva. As is known, in putting forward its so-called "zero option" which demands unilateral disarmament from the USSR, Washington is blocking the attainment of progress at the talks on limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe.

In his speech R. Lubbers, noting the "important contribution [words indistinct] to the NATO military system, and expressing support for the American "zero option," at the same time passed over in silence the issue of when his government will agree to the deployment of the missiles.

The talks have also shown that among West European leaders, who have to take into account the attitudes of the broad public of their countries, anxiety is growing in connection with the fact that the talks on limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe cannot be budged. The reason for this is the position of the United States, which is trying to break the approximate balance of forces which has come about in the world and in Europe, and to achieve military supremacy over the Soviet Union.

Speaking at the press conference, R. Lubbers stated that awareness is growing in Europe that in order to achieve progress at the talks the United States must show new flexibility, possibly making some kind of new "intermediate proposals," which would be more acceptable to the USSR. He spoke in favor of the United States taking certain "gradual steps" in order to promote forward progress in the talks.

The leaders of the FRG, Italy and Britain previously made similar appeals to Washington.

The parties discussed U.S. policy in Central America, where Washington insists on extending support for the El Salvador and other antipopular regimes. U.S. official circles have admitted that there are certain differences on this issue between the United States and the West Europeans.

Judging by appearances, acute contradictions became apparent during the discussion of trade and economic problems. In this field, as R. Lubbers said at the press conference, there is obvious "conflict" between Washington and the Europeans.

He called on the United States to follow a "more liberal and just" trade policy, renouncing protectionism, reducing exorbitantly high bank credit interest rates, which are having a ruinous effect on the economy of the European countries.

NETHERLANDS PARLIAMENTARY RESOLUTION ON NATO

LD170358 Moscow TASS in English 0015 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] The Hague March 16 TASS -- By the majority of votes the Second Chamber of Parliament of the Netherlands has endorsed the resolution demanding that the country's government work out concrete proposals to curtail considerably the Netherlands' participation in NATO's nuclear programme.

The "tasks" imposed on the Netherlands in the framework of the North Atlantic alliance are aimed at turning the Netherlands' territory into a U.S. nuclear cellar, at stockpiling huge volumes of nuclear ammunition which the U.S. command might use.

NORWAY APPROVES NATO MISSILE DEPLOYMENT DECISION

LD162230 Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Oslo March 16 TASS -- Debates in the Norwegian Storting on the question of Norway's cooperation in NATO were held in a tense atmosphere.

As it was expected, the proposals of the Norwegian Labour Party which stress the need to promote the progress at the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe featured prominently in the discussion. Specifically, the group of the Norwegian Labour Party submitted for the consideration of deputies the proposal that Norway should put forward an initiative on the termination of preparations for the deployment of new U.S. medium-range missiles in a number of West European countries while talks in Geneva are under way. This party believes that when evaluating the correlation of forces between the East and the West it is necessary to take into account nuclear weapons of Britain and France.

The proposals of the party were fiercely attacked by the Prime Minister K. Willoch and the Foreign Minister S. Stray. Resorting to pressure tactics, the ruling Hoyre Party managed to railroad through Parliament with a majority of only one vote a resolution approving the NATO missile decision.

FRG POST-ELECTION MISSILE DECISION DISCUSSED

IZVESTIYA Commentator

LD171802 Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- The question of missiles, of future European security, and consequently the security of the FRG, is the first on the list of issues confronting Bonn urgently and ineluctably, IZVESTIYA political commentator Valentin Falin points out today in an article commenting on the outcome of the early parliamentary election in West Germany.

What do they in Bonn want?, he asks. The platitudes about the need to reduce the levels of military confrontation and the phrases that are not supported by any following practical steps or at least by any constructive ideas are not counted. For one cannot, of course, speak seriously about the "zero option", allegedly designed to eliminate a "whole class of weapons" as a constructive approach.

This option eliminates nothing except the principle of equality and equal security of the sides and is designed to secure the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union.

Maybe, the West German politicians and military experts are totally unaware of what makes first-strike weapons differ from the weapons intended for other missions? Hardly. Maybe, they do not realise that the FRG's conversion into a launching site for Pershing 2's and cruise missiles will inexorably entail higher levels of military confrontation? Unlikely.

What then underlies the actions which are not explained by the speeches that are being made? What is it in fact that prompts officials to exonerate and back the policy for putting the arms race into still higher gear? One is left to surmise that there is something unsaid or carefully concealed.

Reminding the readers that Chancellor Adenauer once urged the Soviet Union's exhaustion through the arms race and allayed the West Germans' fears over the emergence of atomic weapons in the FRG's territory, the commentator does not rule out the possibility that, taking inventory of Adenauer's legacy, his political grandchildren, as the CDU-CSU [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union] leaders call themselves, have fallen mostly for this sort of activities.

Nobody can claim that the West Germans did not and do not have any choice, Valentin Falin writes further. They have the choice between good-neighbourliness and confrontation between accord and discord, between security based on mutual respect for each other's interests and the doctrines of "protracted" and all other kinds of nuclear war that have been conceived in large numbers in the West in recent years. One should not pretend that nothing depends on the Federal Republic in adjusting the malfunctioning mechanism of European cooperation or that it does not care.

The FRG is not omnipotent. This is a fact. Undoubtedly, not everything depends on the FRG. When Washington makes another zigzag, Bonn finds it hard to keep its balance. The West Germans are fastened too firmly to the American military machine, to U.S. foreign policy. This is also a fact of life.

As is reported, taking into account the outcome of the March 6 election Ronald Reagan is in no hurry to revise the "zero option". Purely optical corrections are not ruled out by there is no manifest intention to make any essential changes.

This is the first thing to which the FRG Government is to determine its attitude, the commentator emphasises. To abet the sabotage of efforts to reverse the arms race, or to show through actual deeds proper concern for European peace; to connive at efforts to frustrate the talks in Geneva, or ultimately to use the chance which the talks provide? And if the choice is to use this chance, then it will perhaps be better to do this an hour earlier than a minute later than the moment, which many generations after us will curse, if there remains anybody at all to curse it.

SPD Spokesman Issues Statement

LD141901 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] Bonn March 14 TASS -- "The SPD invariably pursues the aim of making the planned deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in the FRG persistently attract the attention of the FRG Government to that and attentively control its actions in this respect", says the statement by Karsten Voigt, an expert of the SPD parliamentary group for foreign policy issues. The statement has been issued in the SPD's press bulletin today.

"Time presses," he said. "A compromise satisfying both sides should be reached at the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe by autumn this year. Therefore we demand immediate reciprocal proposals from the West, demand consistency in the conduct of the talks.

Karsten Voight stressed that the SPD, as before, declares against an automatic approach to the implementation of the NATO's nuclear missile decisions, even in the case if no positive result is achieved at Geneva by the autumn of this year. The question of how and when the NATO's decision will be implemented, and whether they will be implemented at all he noted, shall not be approached bureaucratically, on the basis of the political decisions taken earlier. This problem should again be thought over and discussed from the political viewpoint.

FRENCH BUSINESSMAN ON SOVIET-FRENCH TRADE

LD171751 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Our country is successfully developing trade and economic cooperation with many states. A group of French businessmen recently visited Moscow. The group consisted of 73 businessmen representing 56 firms, including such giants of French industry as Creusot-Loire, Pechiney Ugine Kuhlmann, and large banks like Societe Generale and Credit Commercial de France. France now holds third place among our trading partners, with only the FRG and Finland in front. Last year the volume of our trade amounted to Fr29 billion. Soviet orders, which provide work for tens of thousands of workers, are of great importance at a time of crisis and mass unemployment in France. We asked Jean Fevrier, head of the delegation and general-secretary of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, to talk about the results of the visit and plans for economic cooperation between France and the Soviet Union.

[Begin recording in French fading into translation] Our visit, Jean Fevrier says, was a success. It demonstrated again the extensive opportunities for expansion of trade and economic ties between the two countries. We discussed a wide range of questions concerning the Franco-Soviet economic cooperation and we signed a number of contracts with Soviet organizations. The most promising areas of our ties are heavy engineering, processing of raw material, the agroindustrial complex, modernization and technical re-equipping of existing Soviet enterprises.

I will cite some examples: A contract worth about Fr3 billion has been signed by the Creusot-Loire, Technip and (ETE) firms for the delivery of equipment of the Asrakhan gas condensate complex. Joint survey and recovery of oil on the shelf of the Barents Sea and development of the copper ore deposit at Udokan offer very promising prospects. Delivery of Soviet gas is now becoming especially important for France. When the Urengoy-Uzhgorod gas pipeline is commissioned, we will receive about 12 billion cubic meters annually from the Soviet Union. In spite of the U.S. Administration's attempts to prevent the delivery of equipment for the gas pipeline from Siberia to West Europe, French firms are successfully carrying out all the contracts which they have signed. [end recording]

USSR, FRANCE SIGN CULTURAL PROTOCOL IN PARIS

LD180340 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1650 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Paris, 17 Mar (TASS) -- The 14th session of the permanent joint Soviet-French Commission on Cultural Cooperation, which was held here from 10-17 March, ended with the signing of a protocol on cultural links in the period 1983-84. On the basis of this document, cooperation between the Soviet Union and France will further develop in the sphere of education and culture.

AUSTRIA'S KREISKY RECEIVES USSR MINISTER LEIN

PM172123 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Received"]

[Text] Vienna [no date given] -- Austrian Federal Chancellor B. Kreisky has received a Soviet delegation headed by V.P. Lein, USSR minister of food industry, which is here to hold talks on questions of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

AUCCTU, LO DELEGATIONS HOLD STOCKHOLM TALKS

PM151021 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Mar 83 p 1

[Report by correspondent B. Kopytin: "Soviet Trade Union Delegation in Sweden"]

[Text] Stockholm, 14 Mar -- A Soviet trade union delegation headed by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev left for Stockholm on 13 March for an official visit at the invitation of the Swedish Trade Union Federation [LO].

At Sheremetyevo Airport the delegation was seen off by V.I. Prokhorov, deputy chairman of the AUCCTU, AUCCTU secretaries, and responsible personnel of the AUCCTU apparatus.

On the same day the Soviet Trade Union delegation headed by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev arrived in Sweden.

At Stockholm Airport the delegation was met by LO Chairman G. Nilsson and E. Karlsson, chief of the LO International Department.

Talks took place today between the Soviet trade union delegation and the LO leadership. There was an exchange of information on the activity of the USSR and Swedish trade unions; an examination of questions of bilateral cooperation and problems of the international trade union movement; and the trade union's participation in the struggle for peace, international security, and disarmament.

USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CABLES TURKEY'S ULUSU

LD141826 Moscow TASS in English 1753 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- The USSR Council of Ministers has addressed a telegram to Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu of the Turkish Republic. The telegram expresses sympathy over the accident, which happened in a mine of the Zonguldak coal basin and involved losses of human life, and deep condolences to the bereaved families.

GROMYKO HOLDS TALKS WITH NEW SYRIAN AMBASSADOR

LD171458 Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, has received today Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, the newly appointed ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic to the USSR.

In the course of their conversation, which passed in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, the sides exchanged opinions on different aspects of Soviet-Syrian relations. They expressed the desire to promote friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Andrey Gromyko stressed that the Soviet Union is constantly advocating a lasting and just peace in the Middle East, and will continue to follow its policy of support for the Syrian and other Arab peoples in their struggle for freedom and independence, against Israeli aggression and for ensuring the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and to establishing a national state.

Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi expressed on behalf of the Syrian leadership gratitude for this constant policy of friendship towards the Arabs, pursued by the Soviet Union in Mideastern affairs.

VISIT OF LIBYAN JAMAHIRIYAH DELEGATION CONTINUES

Tikhonov, Jallud Speak at Dinner

LD171939 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- The USSR Government today held a dinner in the Great Kremlin Palace in honour of a delegation of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya headed by member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 'Abd as-Salam Jallud.

Present at the dinner from the Soviet side were member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Tikhonov, deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, ministers of the USSR, chairmen of state committees of the USSR and other officials.

Nikolay Tikhonov and 'Abd as-Salam Jallud exchanged friendly toasts during the dinner.

I would like to express satisfaction that our meetings with Libyan representatives at a high level have acquired a regular nature, Nikolay Tikhonov said, that friendship between our countries is strengthening with every year, that we have succeeded in achieving noticeable successes in developing cooperation. We in the Soviet Union sincerely wish to see Libya as an economically developed state playing a weighty positive role in international affairs and capable of repulsing all outside encroachments on its independence, Nikolay Tikhonov said. The all-round assistance given by us to your country, the fulfilment of a number of promising projects of much importance for the development of Libya's economy are called upon to facilitate the attainment of this aim.

In the present complex international situation, Nikolay Tikhonov went on, we consider it most important to increase in every way the struggle for strengthening peace, for removing the danger of war and for attaining detente. This course of ours is a real alternative to imperialism's course of world domination, of suppressing the forces of liberation and progress and of exploiting other countries and peoples. An important [as received] that our countries are associates in the struggle in the world between forces of peace and progress, on the one hand, and of imperialism and reaction, on the other hand, Nikolay Tikhonov [word indistinct].

The positive experience of the development of Soviet-Libyan relations, based on principles of equality, respect of sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs, undoubtedly will facilitate the further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Libya for the good of the peoples of both countries, in the interests of peace in the whole world, the Soviet premier said.

Nikolay Tikhonov proposed a toast to the further development of friendship and all [word indistinct] cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

The exchange of visits on a high level with Soviet friends, 'Abd as-Salam Jallud noted in his reply speech, has become traditional in our relations and exerts a fruitful influence on their development. The consultations and conversations taking place between us acquire much importance in the present conditions of struggle against imperialism, Zionism, reaction and racism. The attack on the Arab people carried out by forces of world imperialism makes it vitally important to coordinate actions between the forces of national liberation and the socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union.

The United States Administration is the most reactionary of all American administrations and strives to put an end to the socialist and democratic gains achieved by the peoples in the struggle for liberation. We see that American neocolonialism is beginning to take the place of European colonialism by using its monopolies, by creating the "Rapid Deployment Force". The purpose of the so-called "Reagan plan" is to establish the control of the United States over the Middle East and to put an end to the Palestinians. The "Reagan plan" is a plan of war and not a plan of peace. 'Abd as-Salam Jallud likened the barbarous actions of the Israeli aggressors in Lebanon, perpetrated with Washington's complicity, to Nazi atrocities.

The plans of U.S. imperialism, he said, are attaching special importance to the Libyan Jamahiriyah. "Psychological warfare" and the subversive actions of the CIA as well as the acts of provocation of the U.S. Sixth Fleet and the reactionary regimes allied to American imperialism are aimed against it. The Arab nation wants peace. That is why we support all the peace initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union.

In conclusion 'Abd as-Salam Jallud raised a toast to the further strengthening of relations between the two countries and to Soviet-Arab friendship.

Gromyko Meets With Foreign Minister

LD171825 Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko met with secretary of the Peoples Committee of the People's Bureau for External Ties of the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi. During the conversation they discussed some pressing international problems of mutual interest.

Both sides stressed the need of stepping up the cooperation of all states, big and small, to eliminate the war danger, end the arms race, restrict and reduce both nuclear and conventional armaments on the basis of observance of the principle of equality and equal security. 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi stated that Libya is of a high opinion of the USSR's role in preserving and strengthening universal peace and fully supports its proposals on reducing armaments and ending the arms race.

When discussing the Middle East situation Andrey Gromyko and 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi noted that the aggravation of the situation in that area is a result of Israel's criminal aggression against Lebanon and the Arab people of Palestine and also the unceasing armed provocations against the Syrian Arab Republic poses a threat to universal peace. Responsibility for this is borne not only by Israel but also by the United States of America.

When studying the situation in the African Continent they stressed the important role of the Organisation of African Unity in the struggle by Africa's peoples against imperialism, colonialism and racism, and also expressed confidence that the countries of Africa will manage to worthily repulse the intrigues of imperialism designed to split the ranks of African countries and undermine the Organisation of African Unity.

The sides noted with satisfaction the contribution made to the cause of struggle for peace and relaxation of tension by the recent 7th conference of heads of state and government of non-aligned countries in New Delhi.

The exchange of views confirmed the closeness and coincidence of the positions of the USSR and Libya on the most pressing problems of our time. The readiness was stressed to coordinate the efforts of the USSR and Libya in the international arena to repulse the intrigues of imperialism, efforts in the struggle for peace and disarmament, social progress and the free development of peoples.

Some questions of bilateral Soviet-Libyan relations were also dealt with during the conversation.

Ustinov Receives Armed Forces Chief

LD171447 Moscow TASS in English 1428 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Defence of the USSR Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov today received member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Commander-in-Chief of Libya's Armed Forces Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir.

During the conversation, that passed in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, views were exchanged on questions of mutual interest.

[Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 18 March 1983, the second edition publishes the above report under the headline "Conversation Held" adding that: "Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov and Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense ministers, attended the meeting."]

Economic Talks Held

LD181136 Moscow TASS in English 0955 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- The Soviet Union and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahi Rivah are expanding bilateral economic cooperation in a whole number of branches and trends. Questions pertaining to a further development and deepening of mutually beneficial business contacts between the two friendly countries were the key subjects of the talks held today at the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. The Soviet delegation at the talks was led by Semen Skachkov, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. Taking part from the Libyan side in discussing prospects for economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Libya were Secretary for Atomic Energy of the General People's Committee al-Qa'ud, Secretary for Electricity Jum'ah al-Arbash and Secretary for Heavy Industries 'Mar al-Muntasir. The talks were held within the framework of the current working visit to the Soviet Union of a representative Libyan delegation led by 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Trade Relations Reviewed

LD172242 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- The overall value of trade between the Soviet Union and Libya grew by nearly 800 million roubles in 1982 against the previous year.

A TASS correspondent has been told at the Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry that it amounted to 1,347 million roubles, exceeding for the first time a one billion rouble mark. The increase in reciprocal trade is largely due to a substantial growth of the Soviet imports from Libya.

Actively developing bilateral trade, the Soviet Union and Libya extensively cooperate in economic construction as well. The Tajura atomic research centre, the largest facility of its kind in Arab countries, built in Libya with Soviet assistance, is a symbol of fruitful cooperation between the two friendly countries. This centre, put into operation last year, is intended for carrying out extensive research into peaceful uses of atomic energy.

At present, Soviet and Libyan organizations cooperate in building the gas pipeline Mars-El-Brega-Misurta, electric transmission lines and other facilities. Extensive joint prospecting for oil is being carried out in the region of the Sarir deposit; there are already tens of operational (?wells in) the area.

An accord was reached at the 8th meeting in October 1982 in Moscow of the (?inter) governmental Soviet-Libyan commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation [word indistinct] trade on pooling the two countries efforts for building in Libya a metallurgical complex, a chemical factory and fertilizer factory, for developing Libya's energy system and implementing a number of other big projects.

Trade and economic cooperation is an important integral part of the entire complex of friendly relations between the USSR and Libya. The current visit to the Soviet Union by 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of Libya's revolutionary leadership, is an important landmark along the way of further deepening of this cooperation.

IRAQI DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

LD181040 Moscow TASS in English 1007 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, March 18 TASS -- A delegation of the National Council of Iraq, led by its chairman, Na'im Haddad, arrived here today for an official visit at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

At the airport the guests were met by Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and other officials as well as the ambassador of Iraq to the USSR, Fadi S. al-Izzawi.

USSR REPRESENTED AT EGYPTIAN TRADE FAIR

PM160949 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS-AFP report under the general heading: "From the Teletype Tape"]

[Text] The 16th Cairo international industrial and agricultural fair has opened in the Egyptian capital. Firms and companies from 31 countries are displaying their products there. The Soviet Union is represented at the fair by a USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry Information Center.

SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES TBILISI WORKERS, LEADERS

Discusses Labor Discipline

OW160528 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 0925 GMT on 6 March carries another installment in the "Decisions Are Made on the Spot" program which deals with work experience in handling the proposals and complaints voiced by working people in letters to party and soviet organizations. An introduction to the current installment entitled "Discipline Is the Same for All" is made by Boris Pavlovich Yakovlev, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and chief of the Letters Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

The film begins with shots of V.N. Tsulukidze, chief of the General Department of the Kutaisi Gorispolkom, discussing how her department handles workers' complaints received over the telephone. The narrator outlines the importance of this work. Tsulukidze notes that all complaints are answered by phone within 15 working days of receipt, saving everybody time by not making the workers visit the gorispolkom.

As the narrator notes that workers submissions in Kutaisi, Tbilisi, and other centers are studied by a special public opinion institute. Camera shows the building of the State Committee of the Georgian SSR for Television and Radio Broadcasting and cuts to show a studio scene as the narrator reports on the bureaucrats gallery program produced by Georgian television. The program is shown in progress with an announcer speaking about officials who are obstructing workers' requests. Photo portraits of the bureaucrats under discussion can be seen on the studio wall. The announcer lists workers' criticisms of officials in several organizations and enterprises as their photos fill the screen. Video reportage then cuts to show street scenes in Telavi as the narrator reports on how problems were solved at a local silk spinning factory.

A video interview with the factory's technical control department chief Malikhina follows in which she describes some of the problems solved, and the numerous amenities now available to the factory's working women. Camera cuts to show street scenes in Tbilisi as the narrator says: "Particular attention in the system of measures aimed at further strengthening ties between party organizations and the masses is paid to regular meetings of leading party workers with working people. One of these meetings was held at the beginning of this year at the Tbilisi Dimitrov Aviation plant." After showing high-angle shots of Tbilisi, the camera cuts to show Shevardnadze entering a hall and shaking hands with a group of people welcoming him. The narrator says: "Eduard Amvrosyevich Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Communist Party of Georgia Central Committee, arrived here." Medium and close shots show a smiling Shevardnadze surrounded by people. As he finishes shaking hands he says: "Well, you have not begun the meeting yet?" A voice says: "No we have not begun because we are disciplined." Shevardnadze laughs and says "the fact that you have all lined up in this way is also indicative of discipline."

Amid general laughter Shevardnadze continues: "We have come to congratulate you on the coming [nastupayushchim] New Year, all of you, and to thank you for good work last year and wish you new successes, sound health, personal happiness, and great successes in everything." Replies of gratitude drown out Shevardnadze, and a man to his right says: "We will probably (?not be) criticized?" Shevardnadze responds: "No, I cannot promise this. We will." He joins in general laughter and makes an indistinct comment, after which he says: "Should I say what we are critical of?" As everyone laughs and a voice comments on the collective being responsible a little bit for something which is indistinct, Shevardnadze says: "I will tell you what we are critical of, we are critical of consumer goods production. We are doing very little, and I will say this from the rostrum." Following an indistinct interjection from a man not visible on the screen, Shevardnadze says: "Yes (?we are critical). You are presently producing less in consumer goods than you are making in wages. That's true, right?" A voice answers, "Yes, much less." And Shevardnadze says "much less. Besides we are critical because conclusions have not been made from the critical comments which were expressed at the last accountability and election meeting concerning the production of consumer goods."

Now this is not discipline anymore."

Shevardnadze smiles and a man to his left in the group surrounding him notes that the plant is directly engaged in the production of aircraft but that the collective is guilty. Shevardnadze says: "And when there are no consumer goods in the stores, then what?" To which the man says: "Then we criticize everybody." Shevardnadze says: "We criticize everybody then. Aircraft are needed by the country and you know that this is the main task, your basic task. However, we also cannot live without consumer goods. We cannot. And we cannot only rely on the Ministry of Local Industry and others, such large ministries as the Ministry of Aviation Industry, the Ministries of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, Machine Building and Defense Industry must take on and solve certain tasks. It cannot be otherwise. I have other things to criticize you for but I will tell you later or otherwise I will be denied the floor." A man identified as T.V. Rostiashvili, lathe operator, member of the Georgian party Central Committee and USSR Supreme Soviet deputy notes that the plant pays particular attention to discipline since quality must be at its highest in the aviation industry, to which Shevardnadze quips: "That is here, but in the air, they say there is no discipline when you fly."

Rostiashvili notes that there are many commissions at the plant, including commissions on discipline, and says that the idea of forming one commission is being studied "because discipline is often violated, and we do not know to which commission to assign this case to solve this." He proposes a single commission for handling discipline issues. Shevardnadze responds: "You know as far as this is concerned, you probably do not need many commissions. [Words indistinct] probably do not need them." After some interjections, Shevardnadze continues: "In the raykoms, for example, we have one commission of this sort for strengthening discipline and fighting negative manifestations. They (?carry out) measures in all areas. You could do the same at the plant. Really, when there are too many commissions then we have to have another commission to manage them [laughs]."

T.E. Tsitsishvili, a fitter at the plant wearing several medals on his suit, then addresses Shevardnadze on the issue of workers taking time off during work hours and the need for them to get various documents to take breaks. V.A. Lukyanov, another fitter at the plant, breaks into the conversation and says: "We must start housing and municipal offices so that they would be masters in their rayon, in their small microrayon, and bring about tidiness and order, so that when a person comes in with a request, it will be fulfilled. After all, Communists also occupy these posts, and they are somehow ignoring their positions -- you understand? -- their own authority. So complaints go to higher authorities. People on the spot must have executive discipline, no matter who they are, be they ministers, deputy ministers, shop chiefs, or simply workers. They must naturally adhere to a single executive discipline. This is the most important thing we now have in our life, which itself suggests what must be done." Shevardnadze responds to this, saying: "In other words, discipline is needed not only at the machine, it is needed in offices and everywhere and in everything; and very often (?the state) of discipline in production depends on this."

Lukyanov cites instances of bureaucratic handling of complaints concerning such things as municipal water supply, as a man on his left, identified as F.M. Barygin, an assembly worker and deputy of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet, notes that television has raised the issue of changing the working hours of service organizations to prevent absenteeism by workers who seek services during work hours. He notes that a whole day's absence must be requested even to pay party dues at savings banks, due to the lengthy queues in which one must stand. Barygin suggests tackling this problem in the republic and outlines the effect of such absenteeism at his plant. Shevardnadze says: "You know there was an interesting episode in that television program. It showed that in 1940, you remember in the document, they showed documents that indicated that many such enterprises of this type worked until 2300 hours at midnight."

An unidentified man in the group around Shevardnadze then raises the issue of weekend transportation schedules.

He notes that Sunday schedules make it difficult for workers to engage in leisure activities outside the urban areas. He suggests that transport organizations stick to the same schedules throughout the week. Video cuts from the meeting to the central dispatch office of the Tbilisi transport association, where the department for handling complaints and proposals of citizens is introduced. As transport operations are described, scenes of Tbilisi are shown and R.D. Omarov, the department's chief, is shown in his office speaking about the decrease in complaints since the department's establishment in 1981. Further scenes depict transportation operations, repair crews in action, and video monitoring of busy city intersections. Omarov is again shown noting that a sufficiently high level of services to the public has been achieved.

Video cuts back to the meeting at the aviation plant, where Tsitsishvili is shown complaining to Shevardnadze about poor performance of bus service. N.I. Kostenko, a metalworker at the plant, cuts into the conversation to recall an article in either IZVESTIYA or TRUD which cited labor organization innovations in transportation operations of Tashkent. Shevardnadze nods his head, then turns away from Kostenko and says "what about the women? Usually women are always more (?expansive)." After general laughter in which Shevardnadze participates, M.A. Ovsyannikova, a wire bundler [zhgutovshchitsa] of the plant, complains about the late delivery of dairy products to the Moskovskiy Avenue area and also notes problems with unsuitable train schedules which prevent workers from travelling to farm plots beyond the city outskirts after work. After a brief exchange on this with Rostiashvili noting that the question had been discussed previously Shevardnadze says: "Yes, we must seriously clarify ourselves on all of these shortcomings and problems. Therefore, it is very important and you are probably in agreement with the fact that the Central Committee of our party and Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov have tabled the question of strengthening discipline at the present state so sharply and in such a principled way -- party, state, plan, production, and technological discipline as well as discipline in services, an equally important, a very important question. So we will probably have to sit down after today's meeting in the party Central Committee, in ministries, and departments of the republic, and on the basis of all your proposals and ideas, work out a very serious plan of measures for the republic to strengthen discipline and to raise the responsibility of all comrades working both at the machines and in ministries, departments, and in the party Central Committee. We party workers also need discipline."

The camera pans the group and stops on an unidentified woman who has come to the front and standing directly in front of Shevardnadze, whose back is to the camera, says: "Discipline has never ruined anyone. If the party and government propose measures which will stiffen discipline, we will only support them. I think all of our working people will only support these measures. Any measures, even any law which is aimed at strengthening discipline in any of its manifestations will find the broadest and most ardent support in the hearts of all honest Soviet citizens. We are for this." To sounds of assent from the gathering, Shevardnadze says: "The working class today must be (?personally) interested [words indistinct], that is correct." And after some interjections turns to the woman and says: "Thank you very much for your conscientious and good concern, thank you very much." The woman responds: "We will try to justify the trust which is placed in us."

The camera pans to the right and shows an exchange of comments about Shevardnadze's coming address, which amid laughter is deemed to have already taken place. Indicating one of the officials, Shevardnadze says: "The director organized this, so long as he is not criticized from the rostrum." This is met with laughter, after which he says: "Well, thank you. Let us go to the meeting, please." The group is shown moving up a flight of stairs as the camera cuts to the interior of a hall showing officials of a presidium with banners behind them and Shevardnadze walking towards the rostrum of the left of the screen as applause breaks out. After shots of the audience, Shevardnadze is shown on the rostrum, he says:

"Dear comrades. Our current meeting is extremely notable insofar as it marks a very important and vivid event. Today at the illustrious collective of the Tbilisi Dimitrov aviation plant, a new patriotic initiative of model discipline, high organization, activity, and responsibility of everyone, everywhere, and in everything is being inaugurated. The principled significance of the new initiative of the Dimitrov plant's workers is seen by us also in the fact that it emerged immediately after the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum."

"Appealing at the plenum for decisive struggle against any violations of party, state, and labor discipline Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of our party, expressed confidence that an approach such as this would be fully supported by party, trade union organizations, and by all Soviet people. And the Tbilisi aircraft builders, following the example of the collectives of leading Moscow enterprises, were among the first in the republic to support with deeds the principled line of the party Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo, thereby demonstrating an example of lofty consciousness and organization."

"The importance of the new initiative is also determined by the fact that it responds, in our opinion, in the best possible way to the tasks of the present stage of economic and cultural construction in the republic and for further perfection of the organizational and political work of the Communist Party of Georgia."

"Socialist discipline is a major gain and boon which ensures the accelerated development of the economy and genuine triumph of the principles of democracy, humanism, and the ideals of honesty, truth, and good. The higher the level of socialist discipline the more organized and well-coordinated the process of creation and distribution of material wealth; and every honest worker is vitally interested in this."

"Today we are all witnessing a new stage in the movement for model socialist discipline developing throughout the country, particularly in Georgia. According to tradition, which has taken shape in recent years, prior to adopting any decision or determining the course of further work, we have come to consult with our reliable bulwark -- the working class, you dear comrades -- to give a detailed account of what has already been done by the republic's party organization and to discuss the achievements, shortcomings and urgent problems."

"The system of control over discipline, law, and order established in Telavskiy Rayon opens big opportunities for timely exposure of and adoption of preventive measures against any violations. The party raykom there constantly coordinates the activities of all plan, finance, statistical, administrative, and other control organizations." Long, medium, and close shots of Shevardnadze reading his speech and of the officials in the presidium are shown during his speech. A slogan on a wall in Georgian and Russian reads "My Plant, My Pride." As Shevardnadze mentions Telavskiy Rayon, camera cuts to show street scenes and buildings. Audio of Shevardnadze's speech is cut off as camera shows A.V. Kobaidze, Telavskiy Raykom first secretary, standing at a vantage point over the town talking about his rayon being one of the republic's leading grape growers. He comments on the wine industry of his rayon and the severe weather conditions of the past year, as the camera pans vineyards. Kobaidze also comments on other industries and the importance of Telavskiy as a cultural center.

As the camera shows the building housing the Telavskiy Raykom, a narrator speaks about the raykom's work in maintaining law and order, after which an exchange takes place during which Kobaidze, L.A. Kavashelashvili, chief of the Telavskiy Rayon MVD Department, and an unidentified man are present.

Kobaidze, sitting under a wall map facing the camera says: "Now we have a serious problem with the struggle against law and order violations. A very serious problem."

And you know the problem is not in the number of these law and order violations, not in the degree of their severity, as much as in the fact that our administrative control organs, including ourselves, find it very difficult to prevent these crimes."

"Practice has shown that, if we receive timely information, if we try to understand the situation in good time and if all those control and administrative organs in the rayon, located on our territory -- and there are very many of them, including people who are directly involved in solving this task, we have also a tremendous number of organizations working on a public basis, people's control posts and groups, the Komsomol searchlight [prozhektor] and others -- if all were coordinated in a timely way, all our efforts and work, and if the exchange of information at those stages when we -- it is no secret that we had two or three serious crimes involving large-scale misappropriation of socialist property and state means -- we could have prevented them. Of course, if we had all this information on time and were able to coordinate our work in this regard...."

At this point, rayon MVD Department chief Kavashelashvili says: "The main thing in our work today is that workers of internal affairs organs and the [words indistinct] service, say, expose major concealed misappropriations, and, as a rule, detain the plunderers. If possible, the loss incurred by the state is indemnified, and this is followed by applause for a job well done. Excellent!"

"Now the Communist party of Georgia has set us a different task, to deny the dealers and schemers the opportunity to act over a long period. In other words, to nip things in the bud insofar as, if such crimes are not nipped in the bud they, the dealers, as a rule involve usually inexperienced people (?attracted by) the particularly large profits [words indistinct] into the sphere of their activities."

"To prevent this, we have been meeting every Monday on an experimental basis to exchange information. For example, the following report was received by the rayon department, that..." Kobaidze interrupts him with a remark, which is mostly indistinct, about trips to Moscow. Kavashelashvili continues "Yes, the example was as follows: We have information that residents of our rayon..." Kobaidze again interrupts and says "some." Kavashelashvili corrects himself "yes, of course not all residents, but a certain number of residents travel to Moscow during work time without drawing up travel credentials or taking leave. They take advantage of laxity in control at the production site and in management at their place of employment or, with the connivance of managers, they travel to Moscow where they purchase expensive items and occasionally items in short supply, such as industrial goods and building materials. Sometimes their aim is to resell this later, to engage in speculation."

"We reported this to the party raykom on one of these Mondays and, acting on a raykom decision, an operative group was formed and a plan for it was drawn up. Our ministry and its leaders were notified and they approved our actions. The operative group was sent to Moscow." Kobaidze interrupts and says "this fact, that the comrades came here with these materials and reported to us that the information had been completely confirmed, absolutely, and that concrete measures must be taken against these individuals, this is one side of the question. On the other side lies the fact that this opened our eyes to many other serious shortcomings which exist in certain organizations in our rayon."

"Take the fact that two people left a certain organization without leave or travel credentials, actually at the expense of their work time, and travelled to Moscow on personal business shows that not everything is in order with discipline in this organization. Another side of the issue is that some of our organs, the very workers of the rayon internal affairs department who should be fighting parasitism, the divisional inspectors, are working poorly. Because, after all, a person is in Moscow for several months, for instance, and he is not on record here as having been processed or else the divisional inspector is not providing us with this information."

"Hence we need to carry out extensive measures in some organizations in connection with this to popularize the law, to popularize the law. In other words, we must describe all these facts, all these cases."

A very important point here is another side of the question, that publicity be given to all this so that people will know who is involved in violations, where this disorder is occurring and who we must struggle against, and how we must do it. One of the main levers in our party work is publicity."

Camera abruptly cuts back to the meeting at the Tbilisi Dimitrov aviation plant and shows people in the hall. Shevardnadze can be heard saying: "It cannot fail to cause alarm that in only 9 months last year the republic's industry lost nearly 600,000 man-days and because of absenteeism, idling and absences from work without administrative approval an average of more than 3,000 people daily did not work. This is equal to the shutdown of a large enterprise or association.

"According to statistics, corresponding educational work is being conducted poorly by the Ministry of Construction Materials, the Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry, the Ministry of Construction and other ministries and departments. Often the same people are absent repeatedly. At the (Dzhametskiy) construction materials combine, for example, nearly 1,600 man-days were lost in 9 months. The Stankostroitel production association lost nearly 2,000 man-days. Yet nobody was punished. What kind of exactingness can we expect in this case?"

"In a word, comrades, I want to say that discipline today is needed not only at the machine, but in the offices as well; that model discipline of the worker begins with high organization and responsibility of the leader. I think it would be interesting to dwell for a moment on an analysis of the situation which has taken shape at the Kutaisi automobile plant. Recently, this enterprise was among our leaders. This collective confidently coped with plans, worked steadily and often took first place in all-union socialist competition."

"However, no sooner did exactingness weaken a little, primarily in the managing link, than this immediately affected the state of labor, production, plan and financial discipline. All these shortcomings came to the fore with particular force in recent years when operations had to proceed as reconstruction was taking place and at the same time new capacities for the production of Tandem trailer trucks for agriculture were being established. Serious failures in the production program followed."

As Shevardnadze reads his speech camera pans the audience and provides medium shots of Shevardnadze. As he speaks about the Kutaisi automobile plant video cuts to show the outside of the plant, trucks produced by it and a still of an individual apparently referred to by Shevardnadze as the plant's director. At the same time audio continues and Shevardnadze says:

"The Communist Party of Georgia Central Committee Bureau repeatedly warned the plant's management and Comrade Kharebava, its director. Serious criticism was also expressed at our plenums. But the proper conclusions were not drawn from this. Besides, with the aim of creating an appearance of prosperity, records were inflated and eyewash was practiced at the plant."

"Of course, we could not reconcile ourselves with this. Such things are not forgiven, even in the case of such a well known and extremely merited person such as Comrade Kharebava, a deputy and member of the gorkom bureau. We gave him no quarter because we did not have the right to be weak and lenient. We repeatedly warned from a high rostrum that we do not need manipulations of plan fulfillment but firm production and concrete labor. May what happened at the Kutaisi automobile plant -- that is, we had to release Comrade Kharebava and certain other comrades -- serve as an instructive lesson to all our comrades and all our leaders, both young and experienced."

"I think time itself demands from our working class, kolkhoz peasants and intelligentsia that they be responsible for discipline everywhere and in everything. Our workers [truzhenik] must truly be responsible for their rayon and city, their republic and our entire country.

We must be even stricter in our attitude toward any manifestations of bureaucratism and formalism. We met with a small group of workers in the foyer before the meeting. The comrades absolutely correctly and indignantly spoke about cases of bureaucratism and procrastination in many organizations, particularly in municipal service organizations, some administrative organs, and so forth.

"In other words, we must approach any manifestations of bureaucratism, formalism and callous disregard of people even more strictly. What exactingness and what discipline can we speak about if workers remain who have a bureaucratic and formal attitude toward their responsibilities and who do not think of people, working people and the defense of their interests."

"By initiating with new force a movement for strengthening discipline we will be even more principled and even more uncompromising in eradicating any elements of bureaucratism, formalism, callousness, conceit, departmentalism and protectionism. At the same time, comrades, it is very important to even more persistently and purposefully develop the struggle against criminality, misappropriation of socialist property and bribery."

"Until we achieve a decisive change in observance of Soviet laws any of our best wishes regarding the strengthening of discipline will simply remain wishes. This is why this struggle is presently being waged sharply and uncompromisingly. The strictest measures are being adopted, including capital punishment in relation to particularly dangerous and incorrigible criminals."

"Remember the so-called juice [sokovyye] affair, the matter uncovered at the champagne vines plant, our position in regard to the Ministry of Finance and the well-known bribery case in Imeni 26 Komissarov Rayon."

"The struggle is not weakening. Today we want to say that it will further intensify and let those who plan to disregard the norms of our communist morals take heed of this. Let the moneygrabbers, bribetakers, self-seekers, embezzlers, and all kinds of dealers and swindlers know that no mercy will be shown to them. And I am confident that the working class supports us in this." [applause]

"The path to prosperity lies through honest labor. There is no other road. As Comrade Andropov stressed, the better we labor, the better we will live. We must not permit someone to live better than others simply because he has lost his conscience and uses any means to pursue personal success, and not because he contributes more energy and intellect to social prosperity."

"High vigilance and a principled position must be manifested in this. However, we hardly achieve this every time. Otherwise, how could certain workers, even at your plant, comrades, become members of a criminal group or gang. At the accountability and election meeting we cited this fact because one of the criminals was even a party member. You probably recall this. Later it turned out that these people were perpetrating crimes which were unprecedented in their cynicism and impudence. And nobody in the collective even suspected anything. Therefore, in the future, greater vigilance must be shown and people must be pulled back in time without waiting for them to completely destroy themselves, both morally and physically. Comrades, you know that such wounds heal slowly and affect everybody."

"Our respect for workers of all professions is boundless, particularly for comrades engaged in the services sphere. They include tens, hundreds of thousands of workers who are predominantly honest and conscientious people. We know this. Nonetheless, even in this sphere there are still many violations, deviations and disgraceful practices. Besides, this happens, it can be said, before the very eyes of everybody, including your collective."

"For example, literally next door to the plant flagrant cheating of customers was uncovered in store No 44 -- a document to this effect was given to me by comrades. A buffet worker of the Obshchepit trust was caught red-handed selling 45 kilograms of meat meant for the plant's workers to a private individual."

"Comrades, we very highly value and boundlessly respect our physicians and health workers. They have saved the lives of innumerable people and restored their health. We consider them a reliable detachment of our intelligentsia. Nevertheless, even in this sphere one can sometimes meet callousness and bureaucracy, rudeness and mediocrity."

"This is why, when talking about order everywhere and in everything, we invariably have in mind the fact that the working class of your plant will set an example of how patronage assistance should be rendered, how control over trade enterprises, consumer services, health institutions, schools and kindergartens, cultural and educational institutions, and transport should be organized and how model communist order should be established at the enterprise, in the family, and in the streets. In a word, everywhere." [applause]

"Comrades know and feel how serious the problems are which have emerged in many branches and spheres of our life. There are serious difficulties in providing food to the population -- we all feel this -- and in providing people with housing, gas, fuel, electricity, and so forth.

"Undoubtedly, subjective miscalculations have some affect here but we are confident that most difficulties, you understand, bear an objective character and we will do everything possible to eliminate them. First of all, comrades, we cannot discount the fact that we had several consecutive poor harvest years. Unprecedented natural calamities struck various regions of the country, including our republic."

As Shevardnadze speaks video cuts to show flooded streets and housing estates. He continues: "It would be naive to think that all of this would have no affect on the satisfaction of the people's demands, on material and technical supplies and on other issues." As video continues to show flood-damaged urban areas a narrator talks about rain damage in Zestafoni city and how people quickly restored things to normal. Video then cuts back to the meeting and Shevardnadze can be heard saying:

"I will tell you directly, only under conditions of a socialist system and only because of the enormous natural wealth of our country and the stubbornness and persistence of Soviet people have we been able to emerge from all of these difficulties with relatively minor losses. Nevertheless, many problems still remain and they will make themselves felt in the future. We must be prepared for this and that is why we are again posing in such a principled and decisive way the question of discipline: of organization and order everywhere and in everything; of legality and justice, particularly in the distribution of the material wealth; of high exactingness and so forth. All this is now acquiring particularly great significance."

"We must strive to make discipline that stimulating beginning which permits the social and creative energy of every citizen to be better revealed and directed into a constructive channel and which ensures maximum convergence and combination of the interests of separate individuals and of society as a whole. From a regulating factor it must increasingly turn into an organizing factor. We support a positive outlook on life and an active discipline in everybody."

Video cuts from the meeting and as the camera shows a bridge over a mountain river valley a narrator talks about everybody in the republic feeling the strength of party concern, exactingness and intolerance for violators of the norms of Soviet life. The narrator notes that the party's work is supported by the people and that this is expressed in their letters to party organs. "The businesslike, purposeful organizational work of Georgian Communists in the struggle to strengthen discipline and order is a guarantee for today's and tomorrow's successes," the narrator says in conclusion.

'Improving the Leadership'

PM160905 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 2 Mar 83 p 1

[GRUZINFORM report: "Major Concerns of a Major City: From a Tbilisi Gorispolkom Working Meeting"]

[Text] The economy of the Georgian capital is growing and developing with every year. The million-strong city's problems posed by life urgently place on the agenda the need to further improve the management of all sectors of Tbilisi's economy. To outline ways for this was the aim of a working meeting held at the Tbilisi Gorispolkom.

The meeting with leaders of the ispolkom, its departments, services and subdivisions and chairmen of the city's rayispolkoms was attended by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee; D.L. Kartvelishvili, chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers; and G.D. Gabuniya, first secretary of the Tbilisi Georgian Communist Party Gorkom.

In the course of the meeting the leaders of practically all leading spheres of the city economy reported on the state of affairs in and development prospects of the sectors. Special attention was paid to the city's pressing unsolved problems and to measures to eliminate shortcomings in the organization of planning and management and strengthen the material and technical base of the economy of the republic's capital.

The meeting was addressed by Comrades G.D. Gabuniya and D.L. Kartvelishvili.

Summing up the results of the meeting, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze expressed satisfaction with the discussion that had taken place. It was noted that the participating personnel -- both experienced workers and the relatively young ones who now hold responsible posts in the leadership of the city economy -- are well aware of the problems and are confidently tackling their solution. Many processes taking place in the city are now being managed and a clear prospect of the comprehensive development of sectors of the capital's economy is emerging.

Great importance for the development of the Tbilisi economy and that of the entire republic and country, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze pointed out, is assumed by the strengthening of discipline in all its aspects. Plan, executive, production and labor discipline is the most basic principle for the successful work of the sectors of the city economy. It is now very important to direct all their activity so that it meets the demands of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 26th Georgian Communist Party Congress, the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the propositions and conclusions contained in the speeches of Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of our party's Central Committee, at the plenum and at the meeting with Moscow machine tool builders.

Tbilisi is the capital of Georgia and the face of the republic. So naturally the city demands special attention, special concern. In recent years much has been accomplished here, particularly in the social sphere. Nevertheless, quite a few unsolved problems still remain. One of them -- perhaps the most acute -- is housing construction, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze stressed. It is true that the plans for commissioning housing have been regularly fulfilled in recent years, but in the assimilation of capital investments, both in the city and in the republic as a whole, there are serious shortcomings and miscalculations. Over the last 10 years alone the population failed to obtain thousands of apartments. It is necessary to make every effort, as was done last year, to use every ruble and every kopek allocated for housing construction with maximum effectiveness. This is not only a social but also a political task. The CPSU Central Committee stresses precisely this in its recent resolution "On Measures To Ensure Fulfillment of Housing and Social and Consumer Facilities Construction Plans."

The quality of housing demands the closest attention. It is necessary to strive earnestly and purposefully to improve it sharply. A situation where the installation of amenities and finishing work are left to the new occupiers of apartments cannot be tolerated.

Pointing out ways of solving the housing problem, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze drew attention to the need for the all-round utilization not only of existing reserves in the republic but also of the resources of union ministries and departments which have enterprises, institutions and organizations in the Georgian capital. It was emphasized that great timeliness and flexibility should be shown in this matter.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze dwelt on problems of further improving the activity of the services sphere, noting that in this field no pronounced changes for the better have yet occurred. This is confirmed by the opinion of the broadest strata of the city's working people, who are voicing justified criticism of the work of municipal transport, the telephone network, trade, consumer services and other spheres. Recently television produced an interesting program about the work of passenger transport in Tbilisi. TV viewers saw the city transport control center, fitted with the latest equipment, and then interviews with workers from the aviation plant and electric locomotive builders who voiced well-founded reproaches against this service. There is a clear disparity between the desired and actual state of affairs in transport.

Tbilisi is increasingly often chosen as the venue for various all-union and international meetings and conferences. This shows the universal recognition of the city's prestige and its growing significance in the public, scientific and cultural life of the country. In this connection the problem of the development of hotel services has assumed increasing urgency in recent years. Here, as in all other spheres of municipal services -- water, heat and electricity supplies -- there are many shortcomings and untapped reserves. These spheres of activity call for special attention since to a large extent they determine the mood of the population.

Incidentally, reserves must be sought everywhere and even the slightest opportunities must be used for the development of the city economy and the provision of amenities for the capital. Much remains to be done to improve of the external appearance of the republic's capital and its sanitation and strengthen public order. Here too the city and rayon leaders have much scope for work. More sensitivity to the working people's needs and requests and more initiative, inventiveness and boldness in solving management problems in the sectors entrusted to them are demanded from them all. Leaders must adopt a creative approach to work, not be afraid of experiments and take constant care to improve their level of knowledge. Professional growth will make it possible to obtain high end results in work.

Then Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze touched upon such an important question for the national economy as the rational utilization of manpower resources, particularly the involvement of women in socially useful work. It was noted that in the city, where there is a great manpower shortage, many women are forced to be housewives and to look after children and are unable to work in production or in the services sphere. In order to involve them in material production it is necessary to construct more kindergartens and creches and improve the work of consumer services. To this end it is necessary to draw up a comprehensive program for the further expansion of the network of preschool children's establishments and improvement of the services sphere.

Speaking about raising leaders' role and authority, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze advised the chiefs of city economy services and subdivisions to contribute more often to the press, television and radio, to inform the population on the state of affairs and development prospects of individual sectors and the reasons for their lag and to conduct a specific debate on concrete measures to eliminate the shortcomings. Such publicity will doubtless be of great benefit both for the city's working people and for city economy personnel, on whom the mood of the people, their highly productive labor and the normal life of the entire city depend to a decisive extent.

The republic and its order-bearing capital are preparing for a great holiday -- the holiday of the friendship and fraternity between the Russian and Georgian peoples and all the peoples of our great homeland, Comrade E. A. Shevardnadze said in conclusion. Numerous guests will come here for the celebrations of the bicentennial of the Treaty of Georgiyevsk. Tbilisi will be the center of the festivities. And it is very important that the city welcomes its friends in a worthy fashion.

All forces must be mobilized to this end. The ministries, departments, enterprises and organizations called upon to make a worthy contribution to preparing and holding the holiday must clearly define their positions. Every inhabitant of Tbilisi must be filled with a sense of personal responsibility for his city and its concerns connected with the upcoming festivities. It is a matter of honor for every inhabitant of Georgia's capital that this festival of friendship and fraternity be held to the highest organizational and ideological and political standards.

The working meeting at the Tbilisi Gorispolkom was held in a frank and businesslike atmosphere. The specific debate, full of concern for the present and the future of Georgia's capital, made it possible to determine concrete ways and means of further developing the city economy, improving the leadership of all its sectors and turning the capital of Georgia into a city of high culture and model order.

RUBEN ON RIGHT OF SECESSION, BALTIC REPUBLICS

PM170901 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 83 p 2

[Interview with V.P. Ruben, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Council of Nationalities, by O. Kulish based on readers' letters: "The Power of the People" -- date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] The letters received at the editorial office at the time of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation talked quite a lot about the equality of our country's nationalities. Here is a fairly recent letter. Reader Yu. Pokrovsky from Minsk says that the union republics are granted the right to withdraw from the union. And he asks how necessary is the recognition of such a right. "After all, no republic has used it and I am sure," so the reader writes, "that none will use it."

[Answer] Article 72 of the USSR Constitution -- which seems to be what the letter writer is referring to -- is of fundamental significance and reflects the Leninist principles of the nationalities policy. Vladimir Ilich considered complete mutual trust, voluntary agreement, and the exclusion of all forms of inequality in relations among nations to be the guarantee of the durability of the state union of independent Soviet republics. The USSR's entire 60-year history proves that we are loyal to those principles.

[Question] As is well known, in the West there are "protectors of justice" who assert that the union republics are in the USSR against their will. T. Valdonis, a student from the Baltic area, recounts how a Western tourist tried to impress precisely that viewpoint on him.

[Answer] I have also heard such comments quite often. And when people say such things to me I quote real examples from our life which refute this deliberate lie.

The Baltic peoples were linked with the Russian and other peoples inhabiting Russia by ancient historical bonds.

Inspired by the Great October Socialist Revolution's victory, the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian working people established Soviet power on their territories in 1918 and formed sovereign Soviet republics. However, under pressure from international imperialism and the nationalist bourgeoisie at that time. The Baltic region's working people were unable to defend their revolutionary gains.

However, the Latvian, Lithuanian and Estonian working people, under communist leadership, waged a selfless struggle to restore Soviet power. That struggle was crowned with victory in 1940. On the basis of their people's self-determination, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia voluntarily joined the USSR in summer 1940.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA readers will probably remember how at one time the Latvian Red Riflemen were called the knights of the revolution. They guarded the Smolnyy Institute and Lenin's study and drove Wrangel's troops out of Perekop. The Latvian Red Riflemen took part in the struggle for Soviet power after Latvia had been captured by the counter-revolutionary forces and struggled for the Ukrainian people's freedom.

Our enemies prefer to ignore this, of course. They see Estonians, for example, living at one end of our state and Uzbeks at the other. And they would like to exploit this to shatter our unity. I can say, however, that these attempts are doomed to failure.

MATERIAL 'IMPROVEMENTS' ENCOURAGE HIGHER BIRTH RATE

LD171347 Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- TASS commentator Boris Prokhorov writes: According to statistics, there are some 70 million families in the Soviet Union today. Of them, 2.3 million have four and more children, one third have two children, and the rest have one child.

Demographers take the view that one child in a family is not enough. The fact that the demographic situation in the USSR is approximately the same as in practically all other developed countries is poor consolation. Soviet experts have studied what is behind a certain drop in the birth rate in this country and found out that this is an objective process resulting from both historical (the "Democratic echo" of World War II is still making itself felt), and social causes (more women now have jobs), as well as a host of other factors.

But there is also another significant fact that deserves mentioning. When the experts were studying the problem of why Soviet families now have less children than before, they launched a public opinion poll among them and one of the questions on the list was the number of children people would like to have.

And nearly 100 percent of the respondents, according to Professor Igor Bestuzhev-Lada, a prominent Soviet sociologist, said that would like to have two or three children, or precisely the number necessary for the population to reproduce itself.

Interested in the birth rate to go up, the Soviet Government has introduced a whole package of mother and child protection measures and steadily increased aid to families with children. Suffice it to say that over recent years the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government have adopted some ten resolutions designed to improve the material position of these families.

The government's outlays for these purposes today are thrice as big as 20 years ago and will grow by another 10,000 million roubles in 1981-85.

Continued improvements in the housing situation and the progressive expansion of the network of pre-school child-care nurseries (which even today cater for almost 15 million children) also create favourable conditions for the growth of the birth rate. Let us remind the reader that government-built housing in the USSR is allocated free of charge and that parents pay only 20 per cent of the cost of the upkeep of their children in the child-care centres.

Five or ten years are, of course, too short a span of time for any appreciable changes in the demographic situation to take place. But, specialists believe, the government's large-scale aid to families will in the long run undoubtedly produce the desired effect.

IZVESTIYA ON INDIVIDUAL'S ROLE IN SOCIETY

PM170007 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Society and the Individual: Unity of Interests"]

[Excerpts] A person can only reveal himself as an individual in contact with other people, in some field of labor, in public activity. It is in the process of this contact, in labor, that his abilities can be fully revealed, his character emerge, his talent or gifts flourish, and that creative maturity arrive which makes a person an individual. The formation and development of a person as an individual necessarily presupposes the need for and the possibility of education and the acquisition of profound knowledge.

The victory of the Great October Revolution and the building of the developed socialist society in our country opened up unlimited opportunities for labor activity for the millions of people belonging to the masses in the cities and the countryside. The very nature of labor changed. All the means of production, the land, and the wealth below became the people's property and the source of their well-being, the flourishing of their spiritual life, the opportunity to learn about the world and thus the formation of the new person.

In socialist society any conscientious labor is valued highly, whether it is the labor of a scientist or an engineer, a miner, a metallurgist or a carpenter, a machine operator who tills the land, or a milkmaid. It is labor above all which determines a person's place in Soviet society, his moral makeup, his civic nature, and his life stance. It is labor -- conscious, conscientious, enterprising labor for the good of society -- which we regard as the supreme measure of the dignity and social prestige of the individual. Such labor opens up before every Soviet person, wherever he works, wide opportunities for professional, moral, and spiritual growth and can manifest itself fully in any activity useful to society and thereby earn public recognition.

An important role in molding a person as an individual belongs to the labor collective, which cultivates such important qualities as collectivism, self-discipline, exactingness toward yourself and your comrades in labor, intolerance of inertia and conservatism, and a sense of innovation prompting energetic action with a view to accelerating scientific and technical progress. This has become the cause of millions of people.

Responsibility for the task entrusted to him is one important prerequisite for the formation of the individual. Thrifty concern for the affairs of the whole collective -- that is the civic stance appropriate to the individual. This sense of responsibility is characteristic of production frontrunners and engenders an invincible striving to improve labor -- your own and that of your comrades -- and to organize it on the basis of the successes of science and technology.

It is in such labor -- innovative and bold -- that the individual is born and rightly acquires prestige and the recognition of the whole people. Here, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's words in his article "Karl Marx's Teaching and Certain Questions of Socialist Building in the USSR" spring to mind: "It is important not only for good labor to be well rewarded and received fitting public recognition, it is necessary for the practice of material and moral incentives combined with exemplary labor organization to support and develop in people an awareness of the useful and essential nature of their efforts and the output they produce. It is necessary for this practice ultimately to establish in people a sense of involvement in the affairs and plans of their collective and of all the people. And that sense does more than any persuasion or appeals to mobilize and discipline people."

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 17 MARCH REPORTED

LD180606 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 17 March. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

Farms in Omsk Oblast have ensured a supply of first class seeds for spring sowing. Almost 500,000 tons of seeds have been prepared. Spring crops will occupy more than 1.5 million hectares. (0304 GMT)

Spring crops will be sown on 30 million hectares this year in Kazakhstan. To date 300,000 hectares have been sown. Spring sowing is only just beginning in the south of the republic. Nevertheless spring crops have already been sown on an area more than twice as large as the area sown by the same time last year. (0830 GMT)

The rate of spring field work in Tajikistan is almost double that of last year. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses are carrying out the mass sowing of grain and pulse crops. They have already been sown on 56,000 hectares. (1100 GMT)

Spring has begun to move into the north. The snow is melting in Belorussia, the Ukraine and Moscow Oblast. Winter crops are being fed on the fields where the snow has gone. This work has already been done on an area of more than 14 million hectares. Machine operators are preparing for mass sowing of early crops; 89 percent of tractors and 96 percent of seed drills have been overhauled in the country as a whole. Spring sowing is underway in seven union republics, including Moldavia, the southern Ukraine and some Transcaucasian and Central Asian republics. Mass preparation of soil for sowing continues in the north Caucasus. In almost all republics, except Turkmenia, considerable attention is being given to improving the fertility of the soil.

FULFILLMENT OF FOOD PROGRAM TASKS EXAMINED

PM161611 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Improving Relations Among Partners"]

[Text] A routine session of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers commission on agroindustrial complex questions on 14 March examined questions connected with the fulfillment of the tasks envisaged by the USSR Food Program for increasing fruit and vegetable production and developing stockraising for meat.

The relevant USSR ministries and departments, in conjunction with union republic councils of ministers, have been instructed to provide for the implementation of specific measures making it possible, as early as 1983 and 1984, to considerably improve supplies to the population of a broad range of vegetables, fruit and berries and also to sharply reduce output losses at all stages of production, transport, storage and processing. Attention was drawn to further improving herd reproduction, the intensification of livestock fattening and pasturage, improving the weight conditions of the livestock handed over for meat production, and radically changing the fodder structure in beef production with the preferential use of pasturage, coarse and succulent fodders, and food industry waste products.

With the aim of completing the preparation of K-700 type tractors for spring field work in the shortest time, the USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry and the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and the Petrochemical Industry, and other interested ministries and departments have been instructed to take measures to provide farms with spares that are in short supply.

The commission pointed out the need for prompt measures to be taken at kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and general-purpose transport enterprises to prepare trucks and other transport facilities for the mass transportation of agricultural freight during the harvesting period. The USSR Gossnab, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry and the USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika have been instructed to take measures to satisfy farm requirements for spares, industrial rubber goods, electrical equipment, tires, batteries, and other material and technical facilities.

It is proposed that enterprises of the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, the USSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming, the Potreboyuz and the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry accelerate the introduction into production of scientific research work in the sphere of the rational utilization of secondary raw materials and ensure the full utilization of production capacities at enterprises (shops) engaged in processing secondary raw materials and waste products. Interested organizations have been instructed to provide in their yearly plans for the allocation of the necessary capital investments to take measures to introduce low-waste and waste-free production processes.

There was an examination of proposals by the USSR Gossnab, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the USSR Ministry of Finance, the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems and other ministries and departments on improving relations between agriculture and other national economic sectors, and also on contract relations between Selkhoztekhnika and Selkhozkhimiya rayon (interrayon) agriculture enterprises and organizations for the supply of agricultural equipment and other material and technical resources.

MINISTER URGED TO TAKE ACTION ON TRACTOR BUILDING

LD171600 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 17 Mar 83

[From the review of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA]

[Text] The paper today publishes an open letter to the minister of tractor and agricultural machine building, Comrade Yezhevskiy, signed by eminent Soviet scientists and by Comrade (Ostankov), Hero of Socialist Labor and chairman of the Lipetsk Frunze Kolkhoze. The letter deals with the fate of the Lipetsk tractor LTZ-145.

It is well known, the authors of the letter write, that machine builders have a responsible task -- to create for the countryside a powerful, universal tractor-cultivator. The slowness in solving this task becomes especially hard to understand when you know that the necessary vehicle was long ago created by Lipetsk tractor-builders. One can only regret that it somehow has not passed the state testing stage, although it unfailingly wins the approval of leaders and specialists of agriculture, and of the machine operators who have managed to work on it. In our view, the reason for this lies not at all in any constructive [as heard] shortcomings of the apparatus, but in the attitude adopted by the technical management of your ministry. A natural question arises. Can one ignore wide public opinion and the conclusions of qualified specialists for such a long period?

Analyzing the reply of the minister to a letter on this question, Academicians Aganbegyan, Prishchep, and other famous scientists cast doubt on the reasoning cited against the new tractor. They request the minister to show the necessary interest in the work of Lipetsk innovators.